

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Molotov Bait

THERE seems to be an impression in some quarters that the Soviet Government is preparing to revise the "European Security" proposals which Mr Molotov tabled at the Berlin conference; to recast it, or allow it to be recast into a form which could be accepted by the Western powers. That impression, it would seem, is drawn from a single passage in a speech made by the Soviet Foreign Minister during the recent Soviet election campaign. But it is as well to have the record straight. What Mr Molotov did was to refer to some of the objections which had been made to his plan when he produced it in Berlin. One of them, in his words, was that it "was undesirable that the United States should find herself outside of the European Collective Security Treaty." On that his comment was that no one in Berlin put any obstacle in the way of examining appropriate amendments to the Soviet project. Another objection at the time was that the proposed treaty would give the Soviet Union an undesirable advantage in view of its known strength compared with the European countries. On that his comment was that Russia did not pretend to any special position in the system of European collective security. Nothing could be more non-committal than the first comment; nothing could be more irrelevant than the second. But the real meaning of the Molotov plan is that it would put the European Defence Community treaty into cold storage, or rather scrap it altogether, since Mr Molotov has been emphatic that his plan and EDC are quite incompatible.

PERHAPS not unnaturally this has in some minds prompted the question whether it would not be worth while to abandon the EDC if that would make possible the reaching of an agreement with the Soviet Union which would really guarantee the security of Europe and avert all danger of a new war. But is there, in fact, the slightest possibility that the Molotov plan, even with amendments of detail, could provide any genuine assurance of security for the free nations of Europe? What transpired at the Berlin conference supplies the answer. For one thing Mr Molotov left no doubt in any mind that the one indispensable feature (indeed one of the prime purposes) of the plan would be liquidation of the whole NATO security organisation. The Molotov plan and NATO are incompatible. But Article 7 of his "basic principles" lays it down that no European State could "participate in any coalition or alliance the objectives of which are contrary to the purposes of the treaty." And he lost no opportunity in making it plain that the Soviet Government regards NATO as just such an alliance. In short, the Western European States were asked to scrap all their existing defensive organisations and to renounce association with America. It seems clear that what was in Mr Molotov's mind when last week he spoke of the possibility of a detailed discussion of his plan was simply the hope that this inducement would succeed in delaying still further completion of the West European security system. Britain's answer has been immediate and unmistakable: she has announced initiation of new discussions with the Western European powers to discover how she can play a more positive role in the European Defence Community.

An Atomic Suit



Many an envious eye would be cast by space-suit crazed youngsters at this latest atomic attire now in vogue at the huge plutonium producing plant operated for the US Atomic Energy Commission at Richland, Washington. Plastic and balloon-like the suit provides a protective barrier against radiation in "hot" areas and permits a man to determine extent of contamination and do clean-up and maintenance work in such areas.—London Express.

McCarthy's Lie Detector Proposal Described As "Poppycock"

Washington, Mar. 22. Senator Charles Potter (Republican, Michigan) today denounced as a "lot of poppycock" Senator Joseph McCarthy's proposal that all witnesses in his bitter row with the Army submit to lie detector tests.

Senator Potter, a member of Senator McCarthy's sub-committee, said use of the lie detector would turn the group's investigation of the charges and counter-charges swapped by Senator McCarthy and the Army Secretary, Mr Robert Stevens, into a "three-ring circus".

Senator Potter predicted on the Mutual Broadcasting System's Reporters' Round-Up radio show that Senator McCarthy's standing in the Senate and throughout the country "will rise or fall quite a bit as a result of this investigation" into Senator McCarthy's feud with the Army.

He said Senator McCarthy actually was not on trial but "as far as the public is concerned, he is the main issue."

The sub-committee will hold a secret meeting tomorrow to "lay the groundwork" for its investigation into the Army's charges.

These charges are that Senator McCarthy and Roy Cohn, sub-committee counsel, tried to use pressure on the Army to give preferential treatment to Private David Schine, a former McCarthy aide, who was drafted last November.

Senator McCarthy and Cohn denied the charges and accused Mr Stevens and the Army counsel, John Dumas, of trying to "blackmail" them into calling off their investigation of alleged "coding" of Communists by the Army. Mr Stevens called this "utterly untrue".

Senator Murch said Mr Jameson "just couldn't get extricated from his commitments." He added that he and Senator John McClellan, senior, sub-committee Democrat, would decide what further action to take in the matter.

A NEW STAFF

He said they may contact another attorney to ask the sub-committee tomorrow to approve a panel of names from which an independent counsel may be chosen. A new sub-committee staff also will be hired for the inquiry.

Senator Potter's proposed system "was prompted by Senator McCarthy's proposal

REPEAL OF UN TRADE BOYCOTT URGED BY SOCIALISTS

Restoration Of Trade With Red China DEBATE IN COMMONS

London, Mar. 22. Mr Harold Wilson, a former Labour minister, today urged the Government to "repeal the United Nations boycott on trade with China," which he said was long overdue.

He proposed this and the easing of restrictions on trade with Russia and other East European countries in opening a House of Commons debate on East-West trade.

He said the Government was in danger — "through fear of incurring the wrath of one or two rather discredited demagogues in the United States Senate" — of being kept in a "strait laced atmosphere" while American businessmen were moving in on the Chinese market.

The opposition, which chose the subject for today's debate, welcomed the Government's "belated and faltering" moves as far as they went, he said.

But it feared employment in Britain would be sacrificed to "phony political considerations."

He added: "We fear British industry will be sacrificed, to the taboos and blockades, mentality of those people in the United States and elsewhere who tend to think of the whole world problem only in terms of a crusade against Communism."

Mr Wilson said they all welcomed the Prime Minister's remark in favour of more East-West trade because he was the "only member of the Government big enough to stand up to certain of the trans-Atlantic pressures on the question of East-West trade."

(Sir Winston Churchill said last month that a substantial relaxation of strategic control on trade with Russia would "undoubtedly be beneficial.")

Mr Wilson said some of the strategic controls now in force had long ago been seen to be nonsense.

He suggested three points for the Government to consider:

1. A new attitude to strategic control, now dividing rather than uniting the West.
2. There should be ministerial discussions with Russia for a trade agreement to continue the 1947 agreement.
3. Repeal of the United Nations boycott of trade with China.

Mr Wilson said the Prime Minister had excluded China from proposals to ease restrictions. He commented: "I think it is time to put trade with China on the same basis in terms of strategic restrictions as trade with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe."

PROPOSALS PROMISED

Mr Peter Thorneycroft, President of the Board of Trade, said the visit of a group of British businessmen to Russia recently had resulted in the Board of Trade being notified of about £12,500,000 of firm Russian orders. The Board had so far approved about £5,500,000 worth of them.

It had also approved the export of 20 trawlers valued at £40 million to Russia and £1,250,000 worth of textile machinery.

Mr Thorneycroft said British policy could not be dictated by any short-term commercial advantage. The Defence Ministers had to be consulted.

But the Government's policy was that a substantial relaxation of strategic controls would be beneficial and the Government was putting forward detailed proposals.

The danger to be guarded against was "drifting into an ineffective blockade of Russia."

He added: "We believe it possible to combine an enforcement of strategic controls on goods of real strategic importance with a relaxation of controls on goods of no strategic importance."

"We have taken the initiative and we intend to press on with it," he said.

He said the Government was not "in a position to say whether or not we will be able to do so."

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US Army Officers To Sign New Loyalty Certificates

Washington, Mar. 22. The United States Army announced today it had ordered all officers to sign new loyalty certificates.

It had also introduced a new system by which officials are to be notified of any officers who refuse to answer loyalty questions.

The new order, signed by General Matthew Ridgway, Army Chief of Staff, was issued on March 11. It appears to be a concession to Senator Joseph McCarthy.

The order forbids the promotion, decoration, commendation, reassignment, separation or ordering to active duty of any person who has failed to complete the loyalty certificates pending higher Army consideration.—Reuter.

Nearly Ready For Oil Negotiations

London, Mar. 22. Eight international oil companies were today reported near agreement on conditions for producing and marketing Iranian oil.

Top executives of the big firms met through the weekend and "smoothed out" most of the problems which for two weeks have held up formations of a negotiating mission to Teheran.

"The talks are fairly near finality," a source close to the talks told the United Press. He indicated that all the major problems plaguing the talks had been dealt with.

The oilmen have not yet set up the mission to talk with the Iranian government, this source indicated. Before talks started a fortnight ago, US and British diplomatic sources had expressed "hope" that the mission would be in Teheran before the start of the Iranian New Year last Sunday.

Throughout the protracted talks, oil officials insisted the mission would be a negotiating one and would not be sent out with a "take it or leave it" proposal for the financially hard-up Iranian government.

UNKNOWN FACTOR

The reported agreement among the companies focuses attention on the one still unknown factor: the attitude of the Iranian government. Lack of knowledge of the conditions Iran will allow the proposed international consortium to operate under were considered here a major factor in drawing out the oil talks.

The government of General Fazlollah Zahedi has steadfastly maintained its willingness to co-operate with the oil companies but has not been much more specific.

In a broadcast yesterday, Zahedi told the Iranian people they had to accept foreign technicians during the coming year for the country's sake. At the same time, the Iranian government has acknowledged the nationalistic fervour of the Iranian people by maintaining its independence of "foreign domination" and confirming nationalisation of the country's vast oil industry.—United Press.

Sucked Out Of Plane

Houston, Texas, Mar. 22. A sergeant—gunner—was sucked out from an Air Force B-29, more than two miles above the Gulf of Mexico today.

Air Force officials at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, said the plastic blister covering the left gun turret broke loose at an altitude of 12,000 feet.

The rush of air from the pressurized cabin of the B-29 through the aperture sucked the sergeant out. He was wearing a parachute, but officials at Houston and San Antonio did not know whether he survived.

Amphibious planes and a helicopter from Ellington Air Force Base, near Houston, began a search of the gulf.

The plane landed safely.—United Press.

PORTUGUESE ATTITUDE

Lisbon, Mar. 22. The Portuguese National Assembly tonight unanimously voted a motion approving the Government's policy "to defend the sovereignty and inalienable rights of Portugal in the territories of Goa, Damão and Diu (Portuguese India)."

The Indian Government has been urging incorporation of these territories in the Indian Republic.

The motion, voted unanimously by the 77 members on the House, said that having taken account of the Indian Government's attitude regarding Portuguese interests, the House had decided to approve the government policy for the defence of its sovereignty and does not agree that by reason of this sovereignty negotiations should be started which might lead to a better in a possibility of striking at rights which, constitutionally, are the most sacred and inviolable expression of the national honour and which are inalienable.—France Press.

May Recognise Peking Govt

Windsor, Ontario, Mar. 22. Mr Lester Pearson, Canadian External Affairs Minister, said today that Canada might consider following Britain's lead in recognising the Peking regime if the Communists were willing to give assurances that their Korean aggression was a thing of the past.

He added that the Communists should also "show" they were ready to take an honest line in international affairs.

Commenting on a suggestion that recognition of the Peking regime would be Canada's only "realistic" course of action, he said "realistic" doesn't mean there are no principles involved. He said Canada would not be a "puppet" of the Peking regime.

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Kenya Situation Optimistic Report By Lyttelton

London, Mar. 22. The British Colonial Secretary, Mr Oliver Lyttelton, reporting to the House of Commons on his recent visit to Kenya, said today that "the general feeling of the militant part of Mau Mau in several areas, but not all, is that nothing is to be gained by continuing the struggle."

Mr Lyttelton said that the security force had passed into the offensive role. The example shown by the British troops in all areas had greatly improved the feelings of the population towards Britain, he declared.

He said that the present administration in Kenya does not meet the political realities of today. It was desirable that those living in Kenya should begin to take a greater share in executive government, necessitating a multi-racial foundation to that government.

OBJECTS ACHIEVED

The main lines of the scheme set out in the recent White Paper on Kenya represented the "largest common factor" for agreement which was practicable, and so it had proved to be, he said.

Mr Lyttelton declared that the proposals had achieved three objects. First to bring the "unofficial members" into the government and thus close the ranks in the struggle against Mau Mau. Second, to ensure that the government had a multi-racial foundation. Third, to set up the War Council.

"They do not end during these convulsions; they cannot satisfy all the aspirations of any racial group; but even in these times they show that the moderate elements in all ages predominate," Mr Lyttelton concluded.—France Press.

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GUN BATTLE

Nairobi, Mar. 22. A "wanted" Kikuyu shot dead a tribal policeman and wounded a loyal Kikamba headman before he himself was killed in a gun battle in the Bahili location of Nairobi today.

He was recognised when a patrol began checking passes. He drew a pistol and started firing.—Reuter.

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FRENCH-U.S. TALKS ON
INDO-CHINA"Request For More
Bombers
Would Be Considered"

Washington, Mar. 22.

The Chairman of the United States Joint Chiefs-of-Staff, Admiral Arthur Radford, said today if France asked for more B-26 bombers for Indo-China their request would certainly be considered.

Admiral Radford and French General Paul Ely were talking to the Press after a 30-minute session they had with President Dwight Eisenhower at the White House.

General Ely said he had not come to Washington to discuss in detail the programme of American aid to Indo-China but to have an exchange of views on the Indo-Chinese question with Admiral Radford. He pointed out he had not brought any experts with him.

General Ely was confident that the battle for Dien Bien Phu, although extremely hard fought, would have a favourable outcome. He claimed that so far heavy casualties had been inflicted on the Vietnamese in the battle. The rebels, he said, were trying to score a success before the Geneva Conference. Admiral Radford expressed confidence in the outcome of fighting in Indo-China, saying he had always thought the French would win the war with American help. Referring to the sending of extra B-26 bombers to Indo-China Admiral Radford said that would involve sending more American ground staff to service them. The Admiral pointed out that the 200 American technicians

already in Indo-China were due back by June. The French, he said, would then be capable of replacing them.—France-Press.

BOOMERANG

Washington, Mar. 22.

Communist efforts to exploit the Indo-Chinese battle of Dien Bien Phu for political rather than military purposes may boomerang and result in strengthening the French position at the Geneva Far Eastern conference next month, it was learned today.

After a talk with President Eisenhower General Paul Ely, the French Chief-of-Staff, frankly described the acceptance of heavy losses by the Communist Vietnamese forces in the battle as being due to their desire to claim a success prior to discussions of an Indo-Chinese peace at Geneva between the Big Four, Communist China and other interested nations.

Both General Ely and the Chairman of the United States Joint Chiefs-of-Staff, Admiral Arthur Radford, appeared to be optimistic regarding the chances of the French decisively beating the Vietnamese forces now assaulting the French fortress of Dien Bien Phu, 175 miles from Hanoi.

A few days ago discussion in diplomatic circles centred around what would happen if Dien Bien Phu fell, with the resultant intensification of French desires to get out of the war, the effect of this on resistance in France to the ratification of the European army treaty, and the maintenance of Western unity at Geneva.

GREATER EMPHASIS

It is significant that there is now greater emphasis on the possible effects of a French victory on the Geneva conference.

This would strengthen the French demands for reasonable terms to end the eight-year-old war and by enhancing the French prestige generally improved the whole Western position at Geneva and the chances of maintaining Western unity there.

But United States officials are still alive to the dangers of the situation.

It is not known whether General Ely and President Eisenhower discussed the possibility of a situation in which the United States might have to intervene more directly to bring about a decisive victory in Indo-China if some settlement is not reached by next Autumn.

Officials were reluctant even to discuss such a possibility publicly.—China Mail Special.

Penicillin For Trout

Scarborough, Yorkshire

Two hundred small trout in stock ponds at Hackness near here are on a special fattening diet of penicillin mixed with minced meat.

The Secretary of the local Fishing Club, Mr. A. B. Smith, said yesterday the fish were thriving.

They are due to be released in streams next October. He hit upon the idea after hearing about the "fantastic" growth of penicillin-fed young pigs and poultry.—China Mail Special.

Danger Of War
Has Lessened
Says Tito

Hamburg, Mar. 22.

The Berlin four-Power conference eased international tension in Europe and showed that world problems could be solved by negotiations, Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia said in an interview broadcast today by the North West German radio.

Marshal Tito said the danger of war had lessened and neither East nor West wanted war.

Asked for his views on the Geneva conference on Asian problems, he said it must be regarded as a positive development that there was a will to get together and talk over Asian problems.

He advocated the admission of Communist China to the United Nations since only if the People's Republic of China were a member could Asian problems be solved.

Commenting on the Balkan pact between Yugoslavia, Greece and Turkey, President Tito said these regional pacts were the "most useful" form of alliances.

General and far-reaching security agreements were increasing the tendency to split the world into two hostile camps.—Reuter.

"Timely Opposition
To McCarthy"

Washington, Mar. 22.

Democratic and Republican Senators joined today in opposing an attempt by Senator Joseph McCarthy to raise, at a meeting of the Senate appropriations sub-committee, the case of a newspaperman allegedly guilty of espionage.

Senator Allen Ellender, Democrat, Louisiana, and Senator Pat McCarran, Democrat, Nevada, reminded the Communist-hunting Republican chairman of the Senate investigation sub-committee that this meeting was to discuss budgetary questions and not espionage.

The appropriations sub-committee Chairman, Senator Everett Dirksen, Republican, Illinois, said his Democratic colleagues' remark was "very timely."—France-Press.

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TALKS ON

Car Prices Cut To Meet
German CompetitionLondon, Mar. 22.
Reductions in export prices of Ford cars to meet foreign competition—particularly German—are announced today. The reductions, which are on passenger cars only, range from 25 on the small Anglia model to 232 on the larger cars—the Zephyr and Zodiac models.

The basic price of these models before the new reductions were: Anglia £230, Zephyr six saloon £232, Zephyr convertible £277. Announcing the reductions, the Deputy Chairman and Managing Director of the Ford Company, Sir Patrick Hennessey, said: "The development of foreign competition, particularly German, has been increasingly evident in recent months and these price reductions are designed to provide the necessary help to our associates overseas to meet such competition.—Reuter.

Crops Destroyed By Rats

Natives Forced
To Live On
Poisonous Plants

Manila, Mar. 22.

Yams, narcotic betel nuts and bleached poison roots was the starvation diet today for the primitive mountain people in Cotabato Province whose meagre crops have been destroyed by rats.

Of all the people to be hit by the rat scourge in the largest province of Mindanao Island the "Belaans" have suffered the most. The simple hill people, original Malayan occupants of Mindanao Island and later slaves of the Moro (Moslem) invaders, lead a semi-nomadic agricultural existence in the mountains. Their small plots of rice and corn in the lower slopes of the mountains were ravaged last Autumn by waves of rats rose from the Liguasan marshes.

This village, located high in the jungle-clad hills around the Kerenadal Valley, presents a clear and grim picture of the life the friendly but hunger-wracked "Belaans" lead.

Their homes of bamboo flooring, topped with thatched roofs, are scattered around a green valley in the tops of the hills. They are bare of furnishings, containing only an iron cooking pot and a few small possessions such as knives. The grimy children, their stomachs swollen with malaria and worms, run through the grass in ragged jackets or in nothing at all.

About 80 families of 400 people live in this general area but no one knows how many "Belaans" live in the hills. Until the supply of yam-like vegetables ran out recently they lived on one of these a day.

After eating it, when the sun was overhead, many of the pagan tribesmen and women would chew betel nut until they fell asleep, their hunger pangs temporarily forgotten in a narcotic haze.

POISONOUS ROOT

Now their main food is "cayote" or "klot" as they call it, a large poisonous root that looks somewhat like an Idaho potato. The hill women slice the root very thin and wash it for three days in a running stream to carry away the poison. After one day drying in the sun and another day washing they pound it into shreds and cook it.

Recently some of the Belaans discovered that if they washed the "klot" for only one day they would become highly intoxicated and forget their hunger.

Brother Eugene Felix of the Marist Brothers' teaching order, said that the infant mortality rate among the Belaans was extremely high. Brother Felix, wearing a jaunty baseball cap and army boots, his white cassock tucked up around his waist, makes the long climb about twice a week to give any help he can. Although they have no religion and do not have a word for God the Belaans have become fond of Brother Felix. They call him the "great white bird."

Brother Felix has started a small school among the villagers here. Some of the children can now speak their name and age in English.—United Press.

Royal Dutch And
Shell Lose

"IC-Plus" Case

The Hague, Mar. 22.

The Dutch operating company of the Royal Dutch Shell group and the Shell Company itself today lost a joint court action aimed at stopping the Caltex Oil Company from using the "IC-Plus" in its advertising.

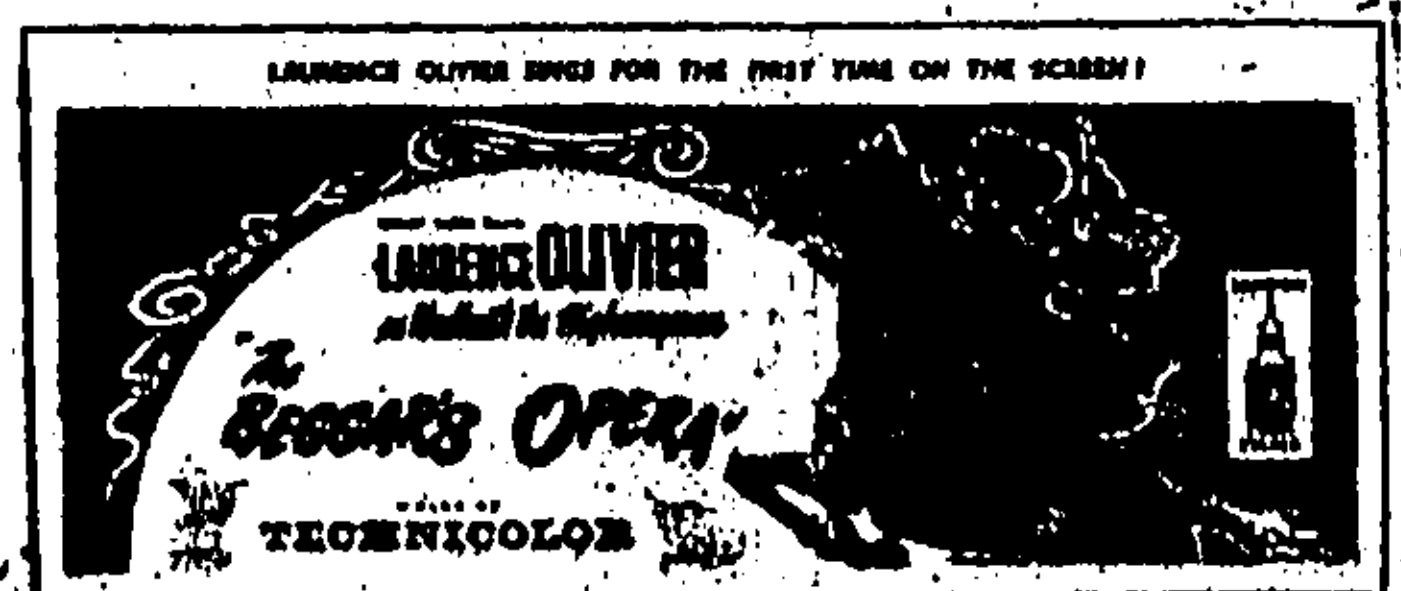
The Bataafsche Petroleum Company—which operates a large refinery near Rotterdam—and Shell were ordered to pay costs.

Oil companies have been waging an "advertisement war" in Dutch and other newspapers advertising ingredients used to boost their petrol's efficiency. BPM Shell used the tag "ICA" and Caltex "IC-Plus."

The President of the Court ruled that ICA meant nothing more than "ignition control additive" and could not be regarded as a copyright trade mark.—Reuter.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

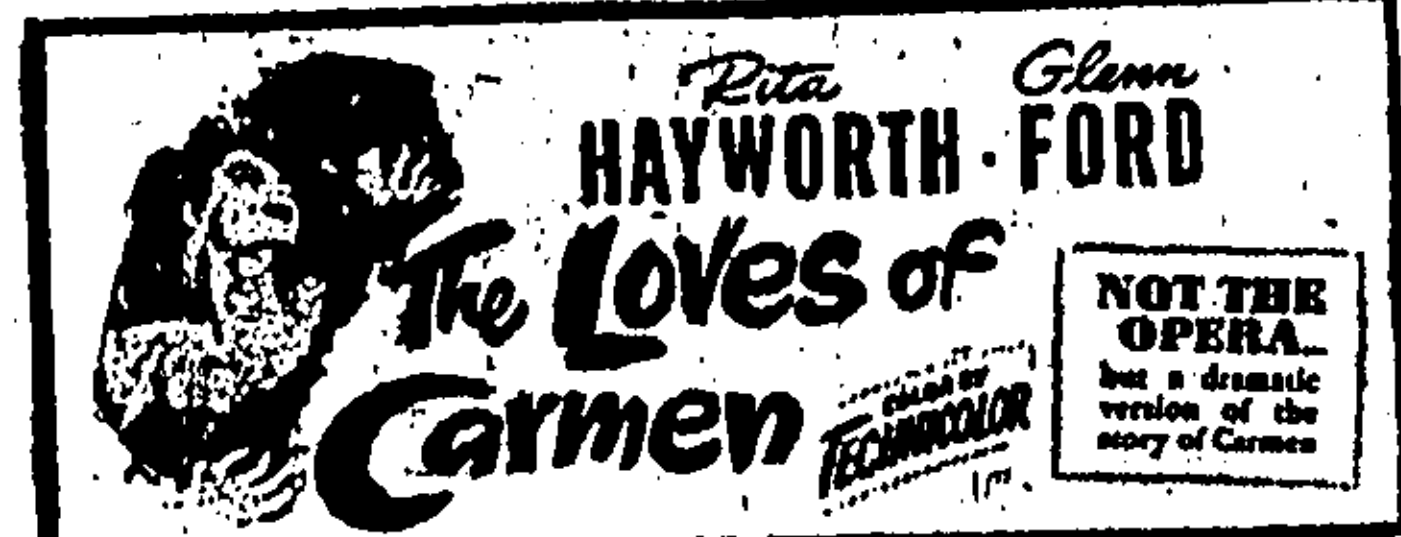
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Jaycees Council Meeting at Peninsula Hotel.
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U.S.A. TO COMPENSATE H-BOMB VICTIMS

Ordained Before Death

Oak, Mar. 22. A Buddhist monk visited Oak Prison to ordain ten prisoners sentenced to death, one of them a woman.

The prisoners went through their initiation ceremonies in the prison chapel with the monk chanting prayers and touching the heads of each with a golden razor.

A prison official said the main reason the prisoners had become priests was because they wished to be at ease when they died on the gallows.

The woman, Hiroko Yamamoto, 38, is the only woman ever sentenced to death in Japan. — China Mail Special.

Middle-East Pacts

Egypt Warns America

Cairo, Mar. 22. Egypt warned the United States today it "would regard as unacceptable the conclusion of bilateral defence pacts in the Middle East."

In an interview with the US Ambassador, Mr. Jefferson Caffery, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, Mahmoud Fawzi, protested against a possible extension of the Turkey-Pakistan Pact to one of the Arab States.

After the interview — reportedly requested by Mr. Caffery — an Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman said Egypt could not allow her position to be weakened.

"Bilateral agreements concluded for defence purposes with Middle East countries would tend to weaken the Egyptian position and we cannot therefore accept them," the spokesman said.

Authoritative sources said that among other matters discussed at the interview were the protest notes exchanged between London and Cairo on incidents in the Suez Canal zone.

Earlier today Mr. Caffery had seen the British Ambassador, Sir Ralph Stevenson, to discuss what an American Embassy spokesman described as "current events." — France-Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS
3. Introduction (8).
8. Support (4).
9. Treacher (8).
11. Scorned (8).
13. Border (4).
15. Suggested (8).
16. Gifted (8).
19. Rope fibre (4).
21. Consoling (8).
23. Servant (8).
25. Blessing (4).
27. Demure (8).

DOWN
1. Hasten (4).
2. Intelligence (4).
4. Regrets (4).
5. Greedy (4).
6. Mixture (8).
7. Follow (8).
9. Small piece of turf (8).
10. Horizontal (8).
12. Weir (8).
14. Inexperienced (8).
17. Drawing-room (8).
18. Exchequer (8).
20. Severe (8).
22. Companions (8).
24. Sediment (4).
26. Departed (4).
28. Press (4).
29. Crew (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1. Morale, 4. Pupil, 7. Complete, 8. Lapse, 9. Select, 11. Endured, 13. Refuse, 15. Tossed, 18. Freed, 19. Abandon, 20. Lacerate, 21. Dangle, 23. Deyar, 1. Mocks, 2. Simple, 3. Shakes, 4. Poles, 5. Previews, 6. Legend, 10. Lacerated, 12. Netted, 13. Bath, 14. Ordain, 15. Apsara, 17. Dancer.

WASHINGTON REPORT SAYS:

Special Treatment For Japanese Affected By Burns

Washington, Mar. 22. The United States plans to compensate the 23 Japanese fishermen burned with radio-active dust of the March 1 hydrogen bomb test and the owners of their vessel regardless of the ship's location at the time of the explosion, informed American officials said today.

Up to now, these officials maintained that compensation would be paid only in the event that the vessel, the Fukuryu Maru, was not in the area barred to commercial shipping during the trial.

Japanese authorities claimed the ship's log showed it was 14 miles outside the danger zone but the United States does not regard this information as conclusive and is carrying on an independent investigation.

High officials now feel however they want to compensate the Japanese for their difficulties notwithstanding the outcome of the investigation which may be months away.

"We are not going to wait any longer," one official told the United Press. "We are prepared to compensate these people for their suffering and losses regardless of what the investigation may show."

He said that the American Embassy and the Department of State would be in touch with the Japanese Government to appraise the damages and reach a fair estimate.

Officials took strong exception to Tokyo news reports that American medical teams were using the fishermen as "guinea pigs" instead of curing them.

One official noted that members of the American Atom Bomb Casualty Commission in Hiroshima were actually participating in the treatment of the fishermen notwithstanding an agreement with Japanese medical authorities to engage primarily to research rather than clinical work.

The health director of the Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. Merrill Eisenbud, who is now in Tokyo, will also offer his medical services to the injured, the official said.—United Press.

JAPANESE CONCERN

Tokyo, Mar. 22. The Japanese Welfare Ministry today decided that all injured fishermen, burned by radio-active dust from hydrogen bomb test, would be treated at Tokyo University Hospital of the National Hospital in Tokyo.

Two of the most seriously injured crew members of the Fukuryu Maru were admitted in the University hospital today. The other 21 crew members are now in a hospital at

Suspicion Over NATO Official's Visit To Rabat

Rabat, Mar. 22. The Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces in South-East Europe, Admiral William Fechteler, arrived here today on a ten-day fact-finding tour as a storm of comment broke in France that the United States had demanded control of French North African air bases.

The influential Paris newspaper, Le Monde, ran a two-column front page story saying Admiral Fechteler's visit was only the prelude to U.S. pressure for negotiations aimed at taking control of Moroccan and Tunisian air bases from France.

Admiral Fechteler, who is also U. S. Sixth Fleet commander in Naples, was the author of a strategy report urging that the United States retire to a peripheral defence on the Mediterranean shores if France refused to ratify the EDC, the paper said.

Le Monde said the U.S. was worried by the "admittedly insufficient" air defences of French North Africa and especially wanted the use of the Mers el Kebir bases outside Oran and the Bizerte base in Tunisia.

The scarcity of radar equipment and anti-aircraft guns, plus the fact that French planes probably would be rushed to France in case of aggression in Europe, have led Washington to push the plan for transfer of the bases, according to the paper.—United Press.

FIRST VISIT

Paris, Mar. 22. A well-informed Allied source here said today that the visit of Admiral William Fechteler to North Africa was the first he had made in this region since taking over his command.

This source stressed that the trip was made on the invitation of the French Government and was for the purpose of collecting information and not for negotiations.

On this point it was stated that the general agreement made between the NATO countries allows for the mutual use of naval and air bases.

UPPER WINDS BLAMED

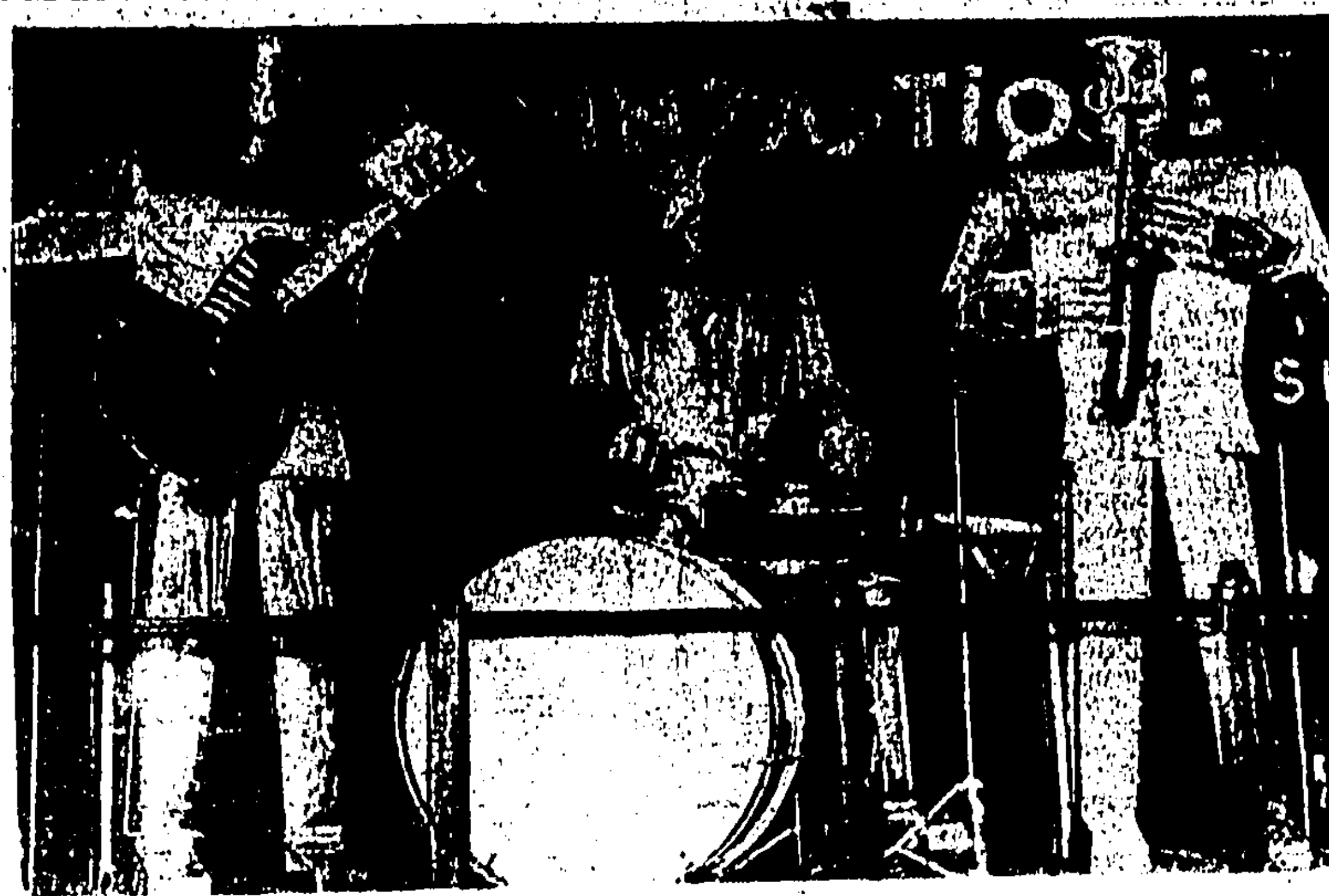
New York, Mar. 22. A member of the Congressional Joint Committee on Atomic Energy today blamed unpredictable, upper winds for the appearance of radio-active dust in areas thought safe.

The Committee member, Mr. Chet Holifield (Democrat, California), a member of the House of Representatives, said on a television broadcast that the dust was so much bigger than had been expected that the radio-active cloud rose higher than forecast.

He said this put the dust at the mercy of unpredictable air currents at higher levels and contaminated an area thought to be safely down wind of the explosion.

Mr. Holifield recently returned from an investigation of the results of the blast. He said that the United States personnel suffered "absolutely no harmful effects."

He added: "The present capacity to explode the hydrogen bomb devices has reached the point where completely new bounds of safety have to be established." —Reuter.



Closing Speeches In Trial Of Lord Montagu

London, Mar. 22. Michael Pitt-Rivers, 37-year-old farmer cousin of Lord Montagu of Beaulieu denied "absolutely" at Winchester Assizes today that he had had homosexual relations with a 21-year-old airman.

Asked if he considered that evidence of the airman John Reynolds was untrue and that Reynolds was lying, Pitt-Rivers replied: "His evidence is totally untrue."

He is charged with Lord Montagu, 27, and Peter Wildeblood, 30, of conspiring to incite two airmen, Reynolds and 25-year-old Corporal Edward McNally, to commit homosexual offences and gross indecency.

They are charged individually with a total of 17 other homosexual offences.

All three have pleaded not guilty and have claimed in evidence that Reynolds and McNally, the two chief prosecution witnesses, have lied.

The cross-examination of Pitt-Rivers continued today at the opening of the sixth day of the trial in the huge Mediaeval Hall here.

He told the court he only learned of Reynolds' "unusual habits" since criminal proceedings have been in progress.

He said he had allowed Reynolds to stay at a weekend at his London flat in November 1952. But he was embarrassed to receive a letter from Reynolds later, and decided he would not want him to come again.

PERFECTLY NORMAL

During that weekend "I do not think I saw very much of him," Pitt-Rivers declared today. "Until I got this letter there was no indication of affectionate terms at all."

He said it was "absolutely untrue," he was "lying to save his own skin."

Pitt-Rivers said he had had "perfectly normal love affairs with women" in his life. He had intended to get married when his farming venture was firmly established.

Defence of all three accused was completed after Pitt-Rivers ended his evidence.

The prosecutor, Mr. G. D. Roberts, began his closing speech to the jury.

The prosecution alleged today that lawyers defending the three men had not called key witnesses because their testimony would not support the defence case.

"No explanation at all has been given to you for the absence of these witnesses," Mr. G. D. Roberts said in the prosecution's closing speech to the all male jury.

CONCLUSIVE CASE

Lord Montagu had denied going into a bedroom with Reynolds but no one had been called to support this evidence, Mr. Roberts said.

Now It's A Robot Orchestra!



French musicians who went to see this robot orchestra, invented by M. Zenon Specht, of Belgium, playing in one of the large Paris shops, are now asking themselves if they will one day be replaced by robots such as these. The orchestra comprises a guitarist, a drummer and a saxophone player, who has bellows instead of lungs inside his metal body.—Express Photo.

Americans In China

US May Seek Their Release At Geneva

Washington, Mar. 22. The United States may press Communist China directly at the forthcoming Geneva conference to release some 100 Americans held on the Chinese mainland, officials said today.

If this occurs, it apparently would be the first direct US diplomatic negotiation with representatives of the Chinese Communist Government.

Previous repeated efforts to free the Americans have been made through foreign diplomats because the United States does not recognise the Communist regime.

Officials said the matter is under active consideration by the State Department, but no final decision has been made.

The United States should decide to bring up the subject at Geneva, it would give priority to about 32 of the Americans who now are in jail or under house arrest.

The others are not imprisoned but have been unable to get out of Communist China.

The 32 Americans include two reporters Richard Applegate of National Broadcasting Corporation and Donald Dixon of International News Service.

Applegate and Dixon were captured with US merchant marine captain Ben Krasser a year ago while cruising on a yacht near Hongkong.—United Press.

Comets Resuming

London, Mar. 22. Britain's Comet jetties will restart passenger services between London and South Africa tomorrow after a 10-week suspension that has cost operators £500,000.

The Comet fleet of the British Overseas Airways Corporation was withdrawn from service for inspection after a Comet crashed in the Mediterranean near Elbe on January 10 with the loss of all 35 people on board.

The first Comet will leave London airport for Johannesburg tomorrow at 1330 GMT.

Comet services on other routes — to Pakistan, India, Ceylon, Singapore and Japan — will be re-opened soon.—Reuter.

Glass Coffin For Girl Found In Ice

Santiago De Chile, Mar. 22. The "Inca Princess" found encased in ice in a mountain shrine in the Andes, has been placed in a glass coffin.

It is hoped it will keep the remains of the 12-year-old girl in the same perfect condition in which they were found.

The body will be shown to the public after a special preserving process.

Experts say they cannot give an opinion on the origin of the statue-like figure until they have made a thorough examination.

They are not sure it is that of an Inca Princess, five centuries old, as originally reported. For the present they describe it as that of an Indian child.

A Chilean muleteer found the girl in an ice cave of the Andes, 16,000 feet up Mount El Plomo, 25 miles from Santiago.

After The Painting Record

Blankenberg, North Belgium, Mar. 22. M. Alfred Verbeke, 24-year-old house painter, has today completed more than 80 pictures since he started his attempt to break the world record for non-stop picture painting.

Verbeke, who intends to paint the picture "he is painting" in an amateur landscape and still, said: "I have

UN Report Says:

Animals Can Pass On More Than 80 Diseases To Humans

Geneva, Mar. 22. Domestic and wild animals can transmit more than 80 diseases to man, according to the United Nations World Health Organisation.

But only five of the diseases, grouped under the general classification of Zoonoses, are widespread in Europe. They are bovine tuberculosis, brucellosis, leptospirosis, Q-fever and rabies.

These five are the subject of a 278-page booklet just published here by the Health Organisation with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation.

An introduction states: "The prevention and eradication of zoonoses in human beings can be accomplished in large part by control of these diseases in animals, so that it is natural for public health officials to give every assistance, moral, financial, scientific and educational, to agricultural authorities in carrying out animal-disease-control programmes."

Such assistance could take the form of financial subsidies, the fostering of research and popular education in control of the diseases, it declares.

The following is a summary of some major points in the booklet dealing with the five zoonoses most widespread in Europe:

Bovine tuberculosis: This disease seems to be more serious in man than has been generally believed. In some countries it represents as much as 100 per cent or more of all human tuberculosis.

It can be caught by drinking raw milk from infected animals. The germs can also be breathed in, and children on farms are frequently infected in this way. Direct contact infection also occurs.

Compulsory pasteurisation of all milk products is the first line of defence for the general population.

It is a common fallacy that goats are resistant to tuberculosis.

ERADICATION

The bases for a successful eradication programme are: Government co-operation for the slaughter of infected animals, premiums on milk from non-infected herds, and operation of the farmers, achieved through an intense and continuous educational campaign. The financial and moral assistance of public health authorities may also be enlisted.

Brucellosis: This disease is also known as melitosis, undulant fever, Malta fever and Bang's disease. It is very frequent among cows, pigs, goats and sheep. Other animals which may be infected include horses, camels, rabbits, hares, chamois and deer.

It is usually transmitted to man either by direct contact with the animal or through consumption of raw milk or fresh cheese. Air-borne infection also occurs.

Although the disease is not usually fatal to man, it causes serious disorders which confine people to bed for long periods. Among animals it causes serious economic losses through abortion, sterility and hence reduction of meat and milk production.

Leptospirosis: This is also known as marsh fever and seven-day fever. It is a serious infection, sometimes fatal. The parasites, of which several types are found in rodents, are transmitted to man through mud, stagnant water and sometimes even water in swimming pools. It may also be contracted by man anywhere where rodents live and multiply, in sewers, mills, slaughter houses or cheese factories.

The disease is also found in pigs, horses, dogs, cattle and the smaller ruminants, it constitutes a serious problem in rice-growing areas, where it is considered an occupational disease.

It was explained that, though national commands would have to be consulted, no time was expected to be lost in hitting the aggressor at the point where it would hurt most.

At present, only the United States and Royal Air Force are or will be equipped with atomic weapons, now described as SHAEF as "new conventional weapons." The secrets of their production, supply, stocks and reserves are not being shared with the other NATO partners.—Reuter.

Retaliation Plans

Paris, Mar. 22. Plans for immediate retaliation by atom bombs in the event of aggression were outlined by North Atlantic Treaty air chiefs at a conference at Supreme Allied Headquarters here today.

Surveying the operational use of NATO air forces in time of war, Lieutenant-General Lauris Norstad, SHAPE Air Deputy, described the systems of command by which American and British strategic bombers would be thrown into an immediate counter-attack.

Both forces, stationed either in Britain or North Africa, fall outside the SHAPE Command. But in the event of aggression on any one of the NATO powers they could be called on through SHAPE channels.

It was explained that, though national commands would have to be consulted, no time was expected to be lost in hitting the aggressor at the point where it would hurt most.

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Are Women Frail? Well, Here Is Anna Beker's Story

New Orleans. Anna Beker, 36, set out on horse back in the Argentine more than three years ago to ride to Canada to disprove the idea of the "frailty of women." She has arrived in New Orleans undaunted.

Along the route she became involved in a civil war in Colombia, was robbed at gunpoint by three bandits in Mexico, and hit by a lorry in Bolivia.

She lost two horses, one from overexerting by soldiers in the 4,000ft. altitude at La Paz, Bolivia.

The other was killed by a car which sent the ecorista to the hospital for eight days.

When the first ecorista died, she changed to a blue harrier, and was just as puzzled when civilians then stole her, until she discovered that the horse was the colour of the conservation.

Peron, agreed to finance her. She provided two horses with two hundred pounds of equipment.

That was in October 1950. On her ride through Columbia, Beker was pelted with stones by soldiers. When she asked why, they told her: "You were wearing a red ecorista, and red is the colour of the rebels in civil war."

She changed to a blue harrier, and was just as puzzled when civilians then stole her, until she discovered that the horse was the colour of the conservation.

Her tour became so dangerous that she could travel only by day, and sleep most of the time at night.

The President of El Salvador gave her a silver revolver, but two days later bandits robbed her of the gun and all her money.

She was stranded until the government replaced her equipment and gave her an escort of soldiers to the border. She was delayed there, months at the border between the United States and Mexico over a technicality, and then made an attempt to cross the border.—(London Express Herald).

THE CITY OF THE ATOM WANTS A BEAUTY PARLOUR

By JOHN McKENNA

WANTED: A beauty parlour—for Uranium City, last resting place of the dangerous Dan McGrews.

Yes, civilisation has come to the frontier of the Arctic, the sweeping tundra of ice, wind and uranium. Two years ago this was a shanty town of corrugated iron shacks, tents and pasteboards. Today, it is a booming city bent on a clean-up.

Broad new streets have replaced the dog tracks, cosy homes are taking over from the shacks, and dapper citizens have driven the Dangerous Dan out to a new wilderness.

There are seven restaurants, a hotel with gleaming chrome bar, rows of shops, taxis, a theatre and a dance hall.

And the ladies want a beauty parlour.

THERE WAS NOTHING

Before the prospectors came, there was nothing. The country had been written off as a dead loss.

Written off, that is, by everyone but that tiny band of rough, tough men to whom Canada's frontiers always mean the chance of wealth—men who are as handy with a Geiger counter as they are with a pick and shovel, as much at home in Toronto's slums as

in the frozen wastes of the Northwest. Up here, they struck it lucky—a wide, rich belt of uranium, the raw stuff for atom bombs and atomic factories.

They came by scores, closely followed by the ever-present Government surveyors and the fur-clad Mounties, who see to it that claims are decided according to the law of the land and not according to the old-time Klondike law of the six-shooter.

FROM ALL OVER

Then came the Government's development men, tons of machinery and equally hardy citizens who build the towns of the frontier.

They came from all over the world: Canadians, Englishmen, Ukrainians, Frenchmen, Italians, mingled on equal terms. Hard terms, dictated by the climate, allow little time for quarrels, the boom spells ruin to the slothful.

Most of them came broke. Many of them are now rich. Take 32-year-old Louis Burke, for instance. A strapping Pole with a smile a mile wide and a beard as red as the Kremlin's flag, he landed in Canada after seven years of service with Allied air forces.

He didn't want to settle down. So he hit for the north. When he got wind of uranium, he hopped a plane for northern Saskatchewan. Now he's president of a mining company.

Aim at everybody here, in fact, is a big thrush in a mining company.

The favourite pastime is not leaving dice—it's playing the

stock market. One Swiss immigrant made \$100 over night. He flew home for a holiday—then came back to try his luck again.

In between, they are just ordinary citizens with a pride in their community.

They have a sense of the fitness of things, too.

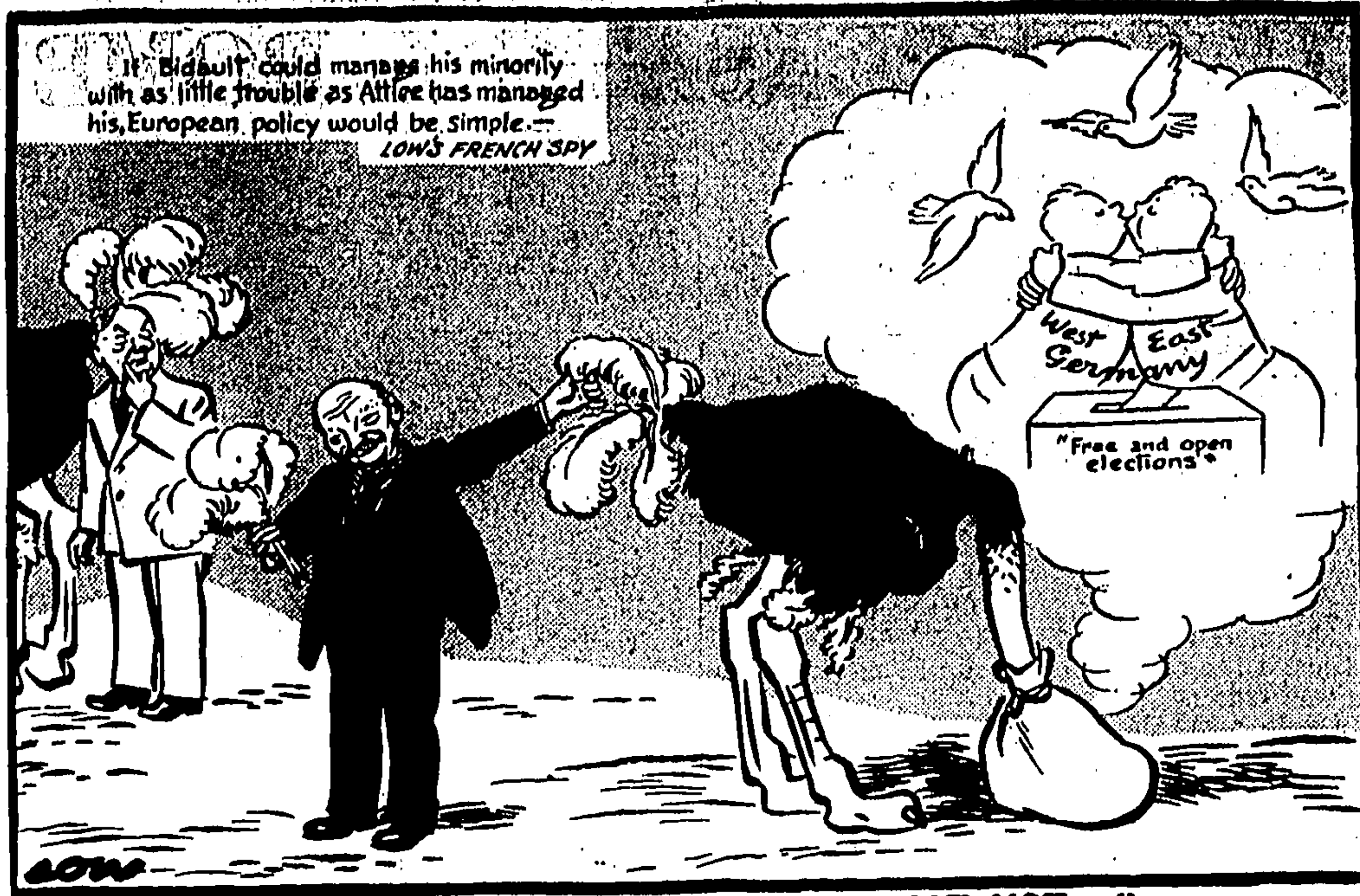
When they came to lay out their main streets, they called one Nuclear Avenue, the other Fission Street.

Now the town's two newspapers are busy campaigning to have the town officially termed a city. They want prestige and an official name.

It will come, of course. One day, Uranium City is sure to be a bustling metropolis.

And, by the way, if you don't want to go into the beauty parlour business, the town also needs a chemist's shop (you'll have to call it "Drug Store") and put in a soda fountain, a shoe repair shop and a dry cleaner's.

Like to try your luck?



Concluding the Adventure of the Gold Hunter

Lestrade Hurlled Himself On The Young Man

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR

Squire Trelawney has been killed mysteriously after disinheriting his niece, Miss Dolores Dale, who kept house for him, in favour of Dr Paul Griffin, a local medical man. Miss Dale is engaged to Mr Jeffrey Ainsworth. She has also shown active dislike for Dr Griffin, who is now under suspicion of murder. Holmes has been brought into the case at the request of the Rev. James Appley, uncle of Dr Griffin. After hearing the story of the night of the murder, Holmes and the others go to the dead man's house.

PART THREE

I WOULD have spoken, but he hurried past us swiftly and silently with no more than a curt gesture toward the stairs. On the upper landing Lestrade led the way into a bedroom with massive dark furniture that loomed up gloomily in the light of a shaded lamp burning on a table beside a great open

"But, Holmes, it is only a small pot of Vaseline such as you may buy at any chemist's!"

"ON THE contrary, it is a hang-man's rope. And yet," he finished thoughtfully, "there remains that

one point which continues to puzzle me. How was it that you were able to avail yourself of Sir Leopold Harper's?"

"No, Watson! These windows were not opened three nights ago. Had they been opened during so heavy a storm I must have found traces. He snuffed the air. 'But it was not necessary to open the windows.'"

"Listen!" said I. "What is that strange noise?"

I looked over towards the bed, with its curtains and high, dark head-board. At the head of the bed my gaze fastened on a small, marble-topped table with a number of dusty medicine bottles.

"Holmes, it is the dead man's little table there, and it is still ticking."

"Does that astonish you?" "Surely, after three days, they would have allowed it to run down."

"So they did. But I wound it up. I came up here before I examined the dead man downstairs. In fact, I made this whole journey from the village to wind up Squire Trelawney's watch at precisely ten o'clock."

"Upon my word, Holmes—'And see,' he continued, hastening to the small table in question, 'what a treasure-trove we have here! Look at this, Lestrade! Look at it!'"

"My case is complete," he cried. "Lestrade and I looked at each other in amazement. 'I have only one more instruction to give,' said Holmes. 'Lestrade, nobody must leave this house tonight. The diplomacy of detaining everyone here I leave to you. Watson and I will compose ourselves in this room until five o'clock tomorrow morning.'"

"It was in vain, considering his mannerly nature, to ask why we must do this. While he settled into the only rocking-chair, it was in vain to protest that I could not even sit down on the dead man's bed, much less take a brief nap there, I objected for some time. 'Watson!'"

"Crawling through my dreams, that voice aroused me from slumber. I sat bolt upright on the quilt feeling much dishevelled, with the morning sun in my eyes and the dead man's watch still ticking near my ear. 'Sherlock Holmes, with his customary callike neatness of appearance, stood watching me. 'It is ten minutes past five,' said he, 'and I felt I had best awaken you. Ah, Lestrade,' he continued as there came a knock at the door. 'I trust that the others are with you. Pray come in.' I bounded off the bed as Miss Dale entered the room followed

The NEW Exploits of SHERLOCK HOLMES

by ... Adrian Conan Doyle and John Dickson Carr

by Dr Griffin, young Ainsworth and to my astonishment, the Vicar.

"Really, Mr Holmes," cried Dolores Dale, her eyes sparkling with anger. "It is intolerable that a mere whim should keep us here all night—even poor Mr Appley."

"It was no whim, believe me, the clue when he said that if he had practised medicine he might absent-mindedly have removed the patient's gall-stones. But that was not all he said. He stated that first he would have chloroformed the patient. The suggestive word was chloroform."

"Chloroform!" echoed Dr Griffin, rather wildly.

"Exactly. It might well suggest itself to the murderer since only last year, in a famous murder trial at the Old Bailey, Mrs Adelaide Bartlett was acquitted from a charge of poisoning her husband by pouring liquid chloroform down his throat as he lay asleep."

"But, deuce take it! Trelawney swallowed no chloroform!" "Of course not. But suppose, Dr Griffin, I were to take a large pad of cotton-wool saturated in chloroform and press it over the mouth and nostrils of an old man—a heavily sleeping man—for some twenty minutes. What would happen?"

"He would die. Yet you could not do that without leaving traces!"

"Ah, excellent! What traces?" "Chloroform tends to burn or blister the skin. There would be burns, at least very small burns."

HOLMES shot out a long, thin, little marble-topped table. "Now, suppose," said Dr Griffin, "that the murderer caught him in a heavy sleep."

"And therefore?" almost screamed Dolores.

"Therefore—since one person tells us he saw Trelawney asleep at ten thirty at midnight, and again at one o'clock—that person has told us a provable and damning falsehood."

"Holmes," cried I, "at last I see the direction in which all this points. The culprit is—"

"No, there would be—"

"I perceive that your medical knowledge leaps ahead and anticipates me. Chloroform is volatile; it evaporates and quickly vanishes from the blood. Delay a post-mortem examination for nearly two days, as this was delayed, and no trace will be left."

"Not so fast, Mr Sherlock Holmes! There is—"

"There is a slight, a very slight, possibility that an odour of chloroform may be detected either in the room of death or at the post-mortem. But here it would have been hidden by the thick pungency of medicine and liniment. At the post-mortem it would have been hidden by that bad cold in the head from which Sir Leopold Harper suffered."

Dr Griffin's face seemed to stand out white against his red beard.

"By God, that's true!" "Now we ask ourselves, as the Vicar might cut bone? Who profits from this dastardly crime?"

I noticed that Lestrade moved a step closer to the Doctor. "Take care, curse you!" snarled Griffin.

Holmes put down the ointment and took up the dead man's heavy gold watch, which seemed to tick even more loudly.

"I would draw your attention to this watch, of the sort known as a gold hunter. Last night I wound it up fully at 10 o'clock. It is now, as you see, 20 minutes past five."

"And what of that?" cried Miss Dale.

"It is the exact time, if you recall, when the Vicar wound up this same watch on the morning you found your uncle dead. Though the performance may distress you now, I beg of you to listen."

Dr Griffin went the harsh rasping noise as Holmes began slowly to turn the stem and wind it up. On and on it seemed to go, while the stem still turned.

"Hold hard!" said Dr Griffin. "There's something wrong!" "Again excellent! And what is wrong?"

"Deuce take it, the Vicar made only two full turns of that stem, and it was fully wound up! You've made seven or eight turns, but it still is not wound!"

"Precisely so," returned Holmes. "But I do not emphasise this particular watch. Any watch, if it be wound up at ten o'clock in the evening, cannot possibly be fully wound on the following morning with only two turns."

"My God!" muttered the doctor, staring at Holmes.

"Hence the late Mr Trelawney did not go to bed at ten o'clock. Surely, considering his badly disturbed nerves and the continued thunderstorm, it is far more likely that he sat up reading his Bible until an unearthly hour, as the Vicar said he sometimes did. Though he wound up his watch as usual, he did not return until three o'clock. The murderer caught him in a heavy sleep."

"And therefore?" almost screamed Dolores.

"Therefore—since one person tells us he saw Trelawney asleep at ten thirty at midnight, and again at one o'clock—that person has told us a provable and damning falsehood."

"Holmes," cried I, "at last I see the direction in which all this points. The culprit is—"

Jeffrey Ainsworth sprang for the door.

"Ah, would you!" shouted Lestrade. He hurled himself on the young man, and there was a snap of closing handcuffs.

Miss Dolores Dale ran sobbing forward. She did not run towards Ainsworth. Instead she rushed into the outstretched arms of Dr Paul Griffin.

"You see, Watson," concluded Mr Sherlock Holmes, as that night we sat once more in Baker Street, refreshing ourselves with whisky and soda, "the probable guilt of young Ainsworth, who fervently desired to marry the young lady for her money, was at least indicated without even the evidence of the watch."

"Surely not!" I objected. "My dear fellow, consider Trelawney's will."

"Then, after all, Trelawney did not make that unjust will?"

"Indeed, he did. He let it be known that such was his intention and he carried out that intention. But there was only one person who was aware of the final outcome; namely, that he never actually signed it."

"You mean Trelawney himself?"

"I mean Ainsworth, the solicitor who drew the will. He has admitted as much in his confession."

HOLMES leaned back in his chair and placed his fingertips together.

"Chloroform is easily obtained, as the British public know from the Bartlett case. In such a small community, a friend of the family like Ainsworth would have easy access to the medical works in the Vicar's library. He evolved rather a clever plan at his leisure. In my little analysis last night I should have been less confident had not examination of the dead man's face with a lens revealed jury-proof evidence in the form of minute burns and traces of Vaseline in the skin-pores."

"But Miss Dale and Dr Griffin!"

"Their conduct puzzled you?" "Well, women are strange."

"My dear Watson; when I hear of a young woman, all fire and temperance, who is thrown into the company of a man of exactly similar characteristics—in sharp contrast to a cold-minded solicitor who watches her carefully—my suspicions are aroused, especially when she expresses unprovoked dislike on all public occasions."

"Then why did she not simply break her engagement?"

"You overlook the fact that her uncle always upbraided her for fickleness. Had she revoked her pledge, she would have lost dignity in her own eyes. But why on earth, Watson, are you chuckling now?"

"Merely a sense of the incongruity, I was thinking of the singular name of that village in Somerset."

"The village of Camberwell?" said Holmes, smiling. "Yes, it is indeed different from our London district of Camberwell. You must give the chronicle a different title, Watson, lest readers be confused as to the true locale of the Camberwell poisoning case."

"THE END."

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OLDEST RADIO STAR

By J. W. TAYLOR

BRITAIN'S oldest radio star, born in a Whitechapel foundry 96 years ago and last turning the scales at a mere 13½ tons, has just completed a record of 30 years of regular broadcasting. Yes, he's Big Ben, still hale and hearty in his 316ft-high Westminster Tower, despite a face that has been cracked for years, as he booms forth on the radios of the world four times a day, three on Sundays, with occasional overtime should he be needed for a sound effect in some show or other.

No star in all radio's history has had such a following, gained such worldwide popularity and the affection of millions of all colours, races and creeds. Yet he has had his critics, like the bellringers of 1926 who declared Big Ben to be the world's worst. He has been called a "disgrace to the Empire" and "a noisy nuisance," once denounced from the pulpit, and once the subject of a Parliamentary demand that he be removed from his high post.

World Institution

Ben, however, has triumphed over all and has become a world institution, beloved by most for his steady, unflinching accuracy that has given him an individuality and a personality no other radio star can hope to cultivate, and has built up a name for himself. Kings, queens, princes, parliamentarians and other distinguished persons, with a few exceptions to the world have spoken in the BBC news, but only after Big Ben has first boomed out a call to the faithful listeners the world over. And he takes his time with marked emphasis, never less than a measured 38 seconds to strike 12.

What radio star can approach the "Old Fellow's" record? Apart from those odd periods of overtime, he always broadcasts "Five" nearly 18½, tall and possessing a voice that can be heard six miles away, he must needs have two microphones, protected by a windshield to catch the booming tones emanating from his big wide mouth. Like humans, he suffers from the bitter winds stiffen his joints and affect his Victorian voice; yet his consistent record of broadcasting is unmatched anywhere.

There have only been occasional silences imposed on him, such as the funeral of Sovereigns, or caused by overhauls or mechanical faults, otherwise Big Ben in all his 96 years has been muted for only one person—Mrs Elizabeth Cavendish-Bentinck. She and her husband were the friends of the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII, who had the bell silenced while she lay desperately ill at her Whitehall home towards the end of the last century.

A Symbol

Through the years Big Ben's resonant voice has become symbolic of Britain for exiles wherever they may be. He boomed reassurance and hope to a war-torn world; heartened resistance workers deep in hostile territory; fortified the weak and oppressed in their years of oppression; spurred on to victory armies against the horrors seeking world domination; and called millions of Christians to prayer. His voice heralded the Sovereign who talked to the peoples of the world of the passing of kings, he recounted the years of their lives in solemn, soft, muffled tones.

During the war Big Ben recorded so that New Zealand's House of Representatives could be called to prayer by radio of his chiming and broadcasting "God Save the King" each day, he signalled Britain and many other nations to a minute of silent prayer, as suggested by the Big Ben Silent Minute Observation leaders before the 9 p.m. news.

Big Ben has had a somewhat uneasy youth after his casting on April 10, 1858. Like his "father," he was found to be "cracked." A square was cut in his side to prevent the split spreading, and he was given a lighter clapper of 1½ tons. The designer had to pay the cost of a libel action withdrawn after he had accused the foundry of faulty casting.

His 13½-ton bulk is suspended from a 25in. by 19in. oak beam estimated to hold 100 tons, and he listens in the key of E below the middle C. His "father," cast on Tees-side and weighing 10 tons, was broken up when tests found him to be cracked. Cast with him were the 2,000 pre-war quarter bells, each weighing more than a ton.

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that brings new hope to millions for

Lifetime Protection Against Tooth Decay!



Actual use by hundreds of people has proved the long-lasting protection of New Colgate Dental Cream with Gardol! Tests supervised by leading dental authorities—for a full year—proved this protection won't rise off, won't wear off! Proved just daily morning and night use guards against decay-causing enzymes every minute of the day and night!

New Colgate Dental Cream is the greatest scientific achievement in toothpaste history—the only toothpaste in the world with clinical proof that brings new hope to millions for Lifetime Protection against tooth decay!

For only New Colgate's contains Colgate's new miracle ingredient, Gardol (Sodium N-Lauroyl Sarcosinate). Gardol's protection won't rise off or wear off all day. So, New Colgate Dental Cream—used just morning and

night—guards against tooth decay every minute of the day and night!

Actual use, by hundreds of people, showed the greatest reduction in tooth decay ever reported in toothpaste history—proved that most people should now have far fewer cavities than ever before!

Yes, clinical and laboratory tests both prove it! New Colgate Dental Cream with Gardol, used regularly and exclusively, offers new hope to millions for Lifetime Protection against tooth decay!



A JURY OF DISTINGUISHED DENTISTS HAS EXAMINED THE EVIDENCE! Documented facts, recently published in an authoritative dental journal, have convinced these dentists that Colgate Dental Cream with Gardol is far more effective against decay-causing enzymes than any other toothpaste. And because Gardol is the only long-lasting anti-enzyme ingredient with clinical proof, these dental authorities agree that New Colgate's with Gardol gives the surest protection against tooth decay ever offered by any toothpaste.



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RECORD HEAVE



This picture was snapped as the 16-pound shot had left Chan Wai-chuen's hand on its way to a new Colony record of 12 feet 9 1/4 inches. The South China athlete is competing for Hongkong at the Asian Games in Manila in May.—China Mail Photo.

Gonzales The Best Tennis Player In The World Today, Don Budge Says

Augusta, Georgia, Mar. 22.

Retiring tennis star Don Budge said today that fellow professional Richard (Pancho) Gonzales "looks like the best player in the world right now."

Budge, who announced yesterday that he was stepping out of the Jack Kramer professional troupe to return to his job at the Town Tennis Club in New York, is in a good position to know.

He said that he has only won one of 48 singles and double matches since he has been with the tour and "I'm just about convinced that the competition is too hot for me now."

The former amateur, who won the United States and Wimbledon singles crown in 1937-38 and also took the doubles title with Gene Mako, those same years, said that Gonzales, United States Singles Champion in 1948-49, has "an overpowering serve."

"Most people overlook how good he and Francisco Segura are because they joined the tour when Kramer was the best and he beat them regularly. But right now I'd say Gonzales is the best in the world."

EAGERNESS TO WIN
Budge said he thought that the "eagerness to win" to prove that they are the best in the world was the reason why Gonzales and Segura were so successful. He said that he had seen Gonzales play in the professional tour and that he was "an overpowering serve."

"I didn't sign up hoping to win but only to play as well as I could," the 38-year-old tennis star said.

Budge said he understood that Pancho Gonzales would take his place when he gave up the tour in London. He said that he was "an overpowering serve."

1,000 Athletes Will Take Part In Asian Games

Manila, Mar. 23.

A compilation of entries yesterday disclosed that some 1,000 athletes from 19 Asian nations will see action in the Second Asian Games opening in Manila on May 4.

On top of the list is Japan with 148 athletes. The Philippines and China have not yet accounted for their representatives, but they are expected to be second and third in the size of the entry list.

Nations which have already filed their athletes aside from Japan are Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon, Hongkong, Indonesia, Korea, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaya. Cambodia, North Borneo and Iran are the Asian Games Federation members aside from the Philippines and China, which have yet to enter their respective athletes.—United Press.

PANDEMONIUM SHATTERED THE SIESTA

Entrancamento, Portugal, Mar. 22.

Pandemonium shattered the siesta in peaceful little Entrancamento as a referee and two line-men drove through the town chased by howling soccer fans in a second car.

Police pulled up the first car but the three men, escaping from a Second Division match in the area, asked to be allowed to continue when the second car appeared to a stop and the jumped angry members of a supporters club.

Police struggled to hold off the supporters while they let the referee's car make a safe getaway.—China Mail Photo.

AU CHI-YIN SCORES A DOUBLE HAT-TRICK AGAINST MANILA

By I. M. MacTAVISH

When the memory of this uneven encounter is long forgotten I am sure that the magnificent double hat-trick by spring heeled Au Chi-yin will be recalled among football men in the Colony. The little policeman had the 'Midas Touch' as far as goals were concerned and he got at least three that were real 18 carat affairs.

But Au Chi-yin, goalkeeper Campos, and Tomlinson's brilliant goal apart, there is little that will be remembered about this game unless it is the astonishing superiority of the local boys even although they were playing for three-quarters of the game with only 10 men. This was due to the retirement of Fong Sai-chow in the 25th minute of the game after he had received a nasty facial injury.

In the early part of this game it was only the superior work of young Campos in the Manila goal that stopped the score from getting out of respectable proportions. This youngster handled the ball in the air with great skill and certainty and with decent covering from the men in front he might have managed to keep the score down even further.

If the Manila defenders had had dreams last night then you can be sure that the latest thing in double acts — Santos and Au Chi-yin — was in the feature spot. It was a case of Santos putting the ball into the

middle, and Au Chi-yin putting it into the net. It worked three times and the defender had no answer to the combination.

TWO STAND OUT

Two goals stood out in this multi-goal game where Santos came thick and fast. To Au Chi-yin, the hero of the hour, the first of these, it came in the 20th minute of the game and put him on four goals in the lead.

Collecting the ball near the touchline he worked his way along the byline when about eight yards out he swerved to his left to what appeared to be the ideal position to centre the ball; friend and foe alike obviously thought that this was his intention, but seeing a narrow opening the diminutive winger suddenly let go a fast-swinging shot which screwed away into the corner of the net to the astonishment of both the attackers and the defenders clustered in the goalmouth.

The other outstanding goal was scored by Au Chi-yin in the second half when he clipped a brilliant shot over his shoulder and into the back of the net beyond the clawing fingers of Campos.

The referee gave a very delayed penalty decision in Hongkong's favour in the 10th minute of the game and the Kam-ho showed no similar hesitation as he blasted the spot kick into the net. This goal put the locals two up and they never looked in any danger of losing their lead.

The Manila side fought with greater determination in the second half when they brought in a couple of substitutes, but while one could not but admire the endeavour of players like Gonzalez, Razon, Alvarez, Garcia and Pacheco there is no doubt that the team is being outclassed by the local players.

They lack the soccer intuition of natural footballers and sense of position is uncertain. They are terribly keen, however, and it is obvious that they all want to do well, but they do not measure up to the real standards of first class football as played here.

In the local side Pau King-yin did what little he had to do with skill and confidence. Lau Chi-ping and Riley were sound backs with Santos far and away the best half-back attack.

Lo Shui-luk, who started at inside-left, moved to centre-half when Fong Sai-chow was injured and he did his job well. The forward line got a lot of room in which to work and every man made a worthwhile contribution to the victory.

For Manila Campos was easily the outstanding player. Dauden, Garcia, Alvarez, Gonzalez and Pacheco, who had the distinction of getting the first goal of the tour for his side when he headed a Gonzalez cross into the net in the sixth minute of the second half, were the ones who caught the eye most.

Verdict: The very small crowd was a clear indication of what the local football throngs thought about this game but there were periods of interest and nine goals stopped the proceedings from becoming dreary. Super-sixer Au Chi-yin gets a special do of the 'Midas Touch' for a delightful and deadly performance.

THE TEAMS

Manila: Campos; Dauden, Benito; Garcia, Alvarez, Codinez, Castillo, Vincete, Pacheco, Gonzalez, Razon, (Garcia) and Horada came in for Benito and Codinez in the second half.)
Hongkong Selection: Pau King-yin (South China); Lau Chi-ping (South China); Riley (Police); Martin (RAF), Fong

Sai-chow (Eastern) Santos (Prisons); Tomlinson (RAF), Moss (Police); Au Chi-yin (Police), Lo Shui-luk (Police), Tee Kam-ho (Eastern).

England Saved From A Follow-on

Port of Spain, Mar. 22.

Freddie Trueman and Brian Statham, the last wicket pair, today saved England from a follow-on by taking the first innings total to 587 — five runs more than needed to make the West Indies, who made 681 for eight declared, bat again.

West Indies took the new ball soon after tea, and when Lock was out leg before at 510 England still needed 22 to avert a follow-on.

Ten runs later Laker was struck in the eye by a bumper from King and left the field with blood pouring from the wound. He went to hospital to have stitches inserted.

In 12 minutes before the close the West Indies scored five runs for the loss of no wicket. Denis Compton completed his first Test century since his 112 against South Africa at Nottingham in 1951 in this morning's play. His chances in the innings had then lasted four hours 39 minutes and he had hit 11 fours. He and Tom Graveney had taken their fifth wicket stand to 89 at the lunch interval.

John Holt, the West Indies batsman, was in hospital over the week-end for treatment for asthma and will take no further part in the match. Jeff Stollmeyer, nursing an injured finger, was also absent and the West Indies captaincy was taken over by Frank Worrell.

THE SCOREBOARD

West Indies, 1st Innings, 681 for eight declared	
England, 1st Innings	
L. Hutton, c. Ferguson b. King	44
T. Bailey, c. Weekes b. Ferguson	40
P. May, c. Pairauden b. King	135
D. Compton, c. and b. Ramadhin	133
W. Watson, c. Atkinson b. Walcott	4
T. Graveney, c. and b. Walcott	92
R. Spooner, c. Walcott b. Laker	19
J. Laker, lbw Worrell	10
F. Trueman, lbw b. King	10
B. Statham not out	6
Extras	22

Total 537
Fall of wickets: 1/73; 2/135; 3/301; 4/314; 5/424; 6/493; 7/488; 8/610; 9/637.

Bowling			
	O	M	R
King	48	16	97
Worrell	20	2	58
Ramadhin	32	13	74
Atkinson	32	12	60
Ferguson	47	17	155
Stollmeyer ..	6	2	19
Walcott	34	18	52
West Indies, 2nd Innings			
Pairauden, not out	1		
Ferguson, not out	4		
Total (for no wkt.)			

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Trueman	2	1	1	0
Bailey	1	0	4	0

—Reuter.

AFTER A DEVASTATING LAST LAP SPRINT



The 5,000 Metres race at the Colony Championships would develop into a great duel between South China's Chan King-yin and RAF's Jack Wood. It was generally predicted. But there was a surprise packet in the person of (In. Grant who opened up on the 12th lap with a terrific sprint that saw him leave the others far behind. This picture was snapped very shortly after he collapsed at the finish, a Colony Champion.—China Mail Photo.

LEAGUE BADMINTON

Craigengower Qualify To Meet Chinese YMCA In Final Play-off

By "ARGONAUT"

Craigengower Cricket Club yesterday qualified to meet the defending champions, Chinese YMCA, in a final play-off for the Colony's top badminton team honours — the Men's "A" Division League.

Both teams completed their fixtures with one defeat each, sustained at each other's hands, and the final play-off is expected to be held on Tuesday, March 30, on a neutral court.

The Valley Club cleared their last hurdle towards the final in fine style by overcoming St. Teresa with a comfortable margin of 7-2 despite conceding a walkover in the last doubles match of the evening.

St. Teresa's only other win came in the opening singles match of the evening when the match was nearly cost Funk the stage nearly cost Funk the match as the St. Teresa boy fought back strongly to level the score at 13-13 and force the set to deuce.

Funk's greater steadiness at this exciting juncture and his tendency during the night in overhauling his services over the baseline enabled Funk to take a commanding 17-13 lead.

Pomeroy was able to add only one point in the three ensuing services that he had and a weak net return gave Funk his set point.

In the other match at Recreo, the Chinese YMCA squad were given a strong challenge by Recreo until 3-3 when the Y's broke through the deadlock with a singles win by Ramon Young over Billy Soares and let their opponents by the wayside by collaring the remaining two doubles games of the evening.

THE RESULTS
Men's "A" Division
CCC 7, St Teresa 2

Singles

D. C. Lau (CCC) lost to Junior Pomeroy 10-15; best J. C. Koh 15-3.

Bill Funk (CCC) beat Pomeroy 18-14; best Koh 15-9. Jimmy Khoo (CCC) beat Ed Marquez-Lim 15-10.

Doubles

Robert Tay & D. C. Lau (CCC) beat Spuddy Motta & J. C. Koh 21-3; best Junior Pomeroy & Ed Marquez-Lim 21-8.

Bill Funk & Wong Kal-cheong (CCC) beat Pomeroy & Marquez-Lim 21-6; lost to Motta & Koh 0-21 (walkover).

Recreo 3, Chinese YMCA 6
Singles
Francis Rozario (Recreo) beat W. F. Foo 16-5; lost to Ramon Young 8-15.

youngster with a hard-earned 18-14 triumph.

Pomeroy started well and built himself a substantial 4-0 lead. Funk's accurate stream of drops and lobs soon forced his opponent into a number of errors, especially at the net, and enabled him to gradually forge ahead to 13-17.

A bad slip on the floor and a weakening of his strokes at this juncture nearly cost Funk the match as the St. Teresa boy fought back strongly to level the score at 13-13 and force the set to deuce.

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Recreo 3, Chinese YMCA 6
Singles
Francis Rozario (Recreo) beat W. F. Foo 16-5; lost to Ramon Young 8-15.

Billy Soares (Recreo) lost to Foo 11-15; lost to Young 3-15. Bernard Brown (Recreo) beat Lam Ming-tak 15-2.

Doubles
Soares & H. F. Gonzales (Recreo) lost to Foo & Young 9-21; lost to W. C. Chung & Patrick Wong 11-21.

Brown & Rozario (Recreo) lost to Foo & Young 12-21; best Chung & Wong 21-14.

LATEST STANDINGS
Men's "A" Division
P W L F A Pts
CCC 0 0 1 35 10 10
CYMCA 0 0 1 34 20 10
St Teresa 0 1 5 20 34 2
Recreo 0 1 6 10 35 2

TODAY'S GAMES
Men's "B" Division
CYMCA v CCC.
Tytam v Recreo.

OXFORD CREW SETS COURSE RECORD

London, Mar. 22.

The Oxford University boat race crew today set up a new record for the 1,254 yards stretch of the boat race course on the River Thames from Barnes Bridge to the winning post at Mortlake.

Their time was two minutes 54.5 seconds. The previous record of two minutes 50 seconds was made by the Cambridge crew in the 1948 race.

This year's race, the 100th, will be held on April 3. The race is over four miles 374 yards.—Reuter.

Malayan Shuttlers Swamp England

London, Mar. 22.

In a badminton match against Malaya today England failed to win a game and lost by seven rubbers to nil.

Among the results were: E.L. Choong and E.B. Choong beat J.H. Best and W.C. Shute 15-8, 15-3; best A.D. Jordan and J.D. McCall 5-13, 15-7. Ooi Tok-hock and Ong Poh-lun beat Jordan and McCall 15-10, 15-5; best Best and Shute 15-8, 15-13.—France-Press.



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Bobby Locke To Take One More Crack At The American Open

Johannesburg, S. Africa, Mar. 22.

Bobby Locke, triumphant after his 203 aggregate over the par 72 Kensington 9702 yards course, said today that he hopes to enjoy his career with a victory in the American Open.

He said he had decided to stay the next five years in the Union "but my old enthusiasm is back and I will have one more crack at the American Open."—United Press.

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"JIANYANG" Kobe 26th Mar.

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ARRIVALS FROM

"CHANGSHA" Kobe 29th Mar.

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Ship	From	To	Date
"ATREUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	24th Mar.	25th Mar.
"DELFROPHON"	Glasgow, London, Rotterdam, Amsterdam & Hamburg	20th Mar.	27th Mar.
"PATROCLUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Apr.	6th Apr.
"ALCINOUS"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Apr.	14th Apr.
"ANTIOCHUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	23rd Apr.	24th Apr.

Scheduled sailings from Europe

Ship	From	To	Date
"ALCINOUS"	Liverpool	24th Mar.	
"ANTIOCHUS"	do	3rd Apr.	
"CYCLOPS"	do	10th Apr.	
"PERSEUS"	do	13th Apr.	
"LAOMEDON"	do	20th Apr.	
"ANCHISEUS"	24th Mar.	2nd May	
"CLYTEMNESTRA"	3rd Apr.	8th May	
"PYRRHUS"	7th Apr.	13th Apr.	

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"AJAK"	do	do	17th Apr.
"HAIKON"	do	2nd Apr.	3rd May
"AGAMEMNON"	25th Mar.	16th Apr.	15th May
	12th Apr.	4th May	3rd June

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"MUNCASTER CASTLE"	London	Sails	7th Apr.
"TELEMACUS"	do	do	14th Apr.
"DONA NATI"	do	do	20th Apr.

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DEATHS

LEE, W. C. Lee, Manager of Vicente, Ateneo, retired senior staff of the Philippine State and Finance Co. Ltd. and Humphreys, John D. & Son and Peak Tramways Co. Ltd., husband of the late Lucy Howell Lee, beloved father of Johnny, Charles, Toby, Stanley, Robert and Edward, and a son, Daisy and Fatsy, passed away peacefully at 10 a.m. March 22, 1954, at his residence at 60 Canton Road, aged 65 years.

Funeral service to be held at the Colonial Cemetery, Happy Valley, at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23, to be officiated by the Rev. J. Ogilvie of St. Andrew's Church. The late Mr. W. C. Lee is a member of the International Funeral Parlour. Cortege will leave the Parlour at 3:30 p.m. today.

FOUND

High-rimmed glasses at Turtle Cove Beach, Tsimshui, on Sunday, March 21. Apply Secretary, South China Morning Post.

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NOTICE

HONG KONG CLUB

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 106th Yearly General Meeting of the Members of the Hong Kong Club will be held at the Club House on Monday, 29th March, 1954 at 5.30 p.m.

K. W. KIRBY, Secretary.

22nd March, 1954.

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The Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on Thursday, the 25th March, 1954 at 10.30 a.m., at his Sales-Rooms, French Bank Building,

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Virtually No New Orders For Ships In First Quarter Says MP

London, Mar. 22.

The debate on shipping in the House of Commons this week crystallised the mounting concern which has been shown throughout the industry for Britain's future as a shipping and shipbuilding nation.

The Conservative member who submitted the motion said that by 1955 only 3,750,000 tons of Britain's dry-cargo fleet would still be in service unless new vessels were built. British order books were not expanding from the low figures of last year but were actually contracting.

"Three months of 1954 have almost gone and so far virtually no new orders have been obtained," he said.

Few new suggestions came from the debate. One of them—a demand by a Labour member for some preference for British shipbuilding—must have been read with horror by those British shippers who have long fought against flag discrimination by other countries.

The First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. J. P. L. Thomas replying to the debate, refused to take as pessimistic a view as some of the speakers, and said the shorter order books would help deliveries and plentiful steel might bring down costs.

In the last five years no less than £20 million had been spent on shipyard modernisation. And Britain was willing to take orders from the Soviet Union not only for trawlers, dredgers and tugs, but also for merchant ships, subject to security and quantitative controls.

"The industry have full details of these and some of the firms are at the moment in contact with a trade delegation

of the Soviet Government," Mr. Thomas said.

The Government was watching the industry and developments, in particular with regard to orders which would be needed after 1955. Mr. Thomas believed the industry with its traditional skill of management and workers, would be able to respond to the undoubted challenge of getting orders in the face of strong overseas competition.

Figures given by Mr. Thomas in his speech gave an indication of the importance of the shipbuilding and shipping industries as foreign currency earners.

Earnings from ships built for foreign owners last year were £39 million, while earnings from ships built for UK owners were £80 million. The British dry-cargo shipping industry's direct earnings of foreign currency in 1953 totalled about £135 million.

But as the Central Council of British Shipping points out, Government figures relate to dry-cargo ship only, and they take account not only of the activities of vessels owned or chartered by UK owners, but also of disbursements by foreign ships in UK ports and freights paid to foreign vessels bringing imports to this country.

The Council, in a recent enquiry, has placed the net contribution of Britain's shipping to balance of payments in 1952 at £221 million. The last similar enquiry was in 1947, when the corresponding amount was £200 million.

These earnings arise only from Britain's exports and from cross voyages between foreign ports, and the whole of the disbursements abroad has been deducted. Nor is any account taken of freights on imports brought into this country by British tonnage, which by saving the expenditure of foreign exchange makes an indirect contribution to the balance of payments.—China Mail Special.

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	sails 28th Mar.	for Japan
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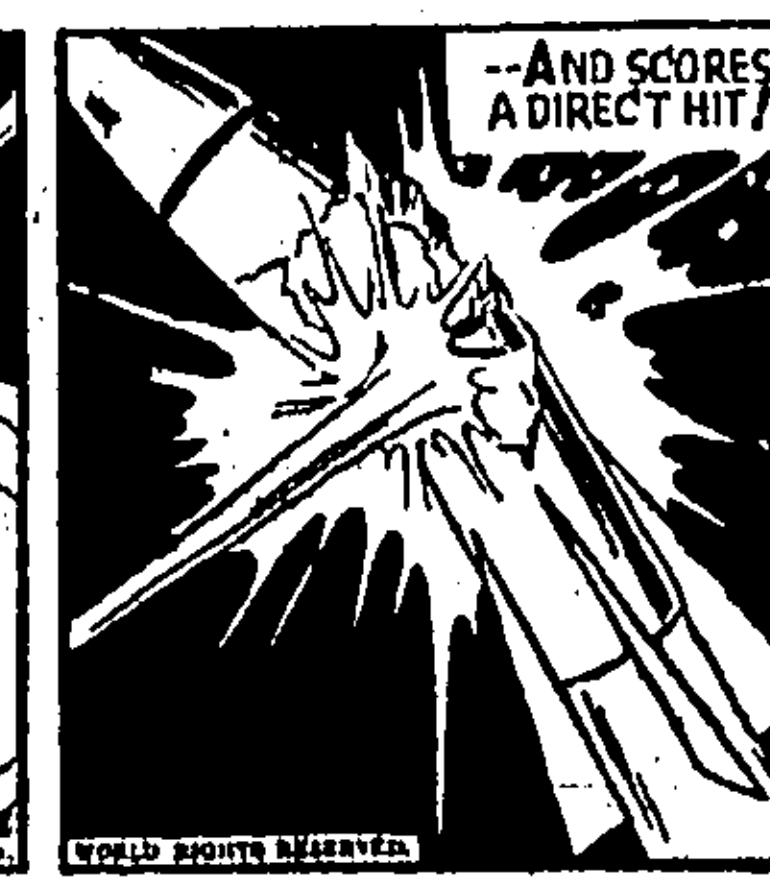
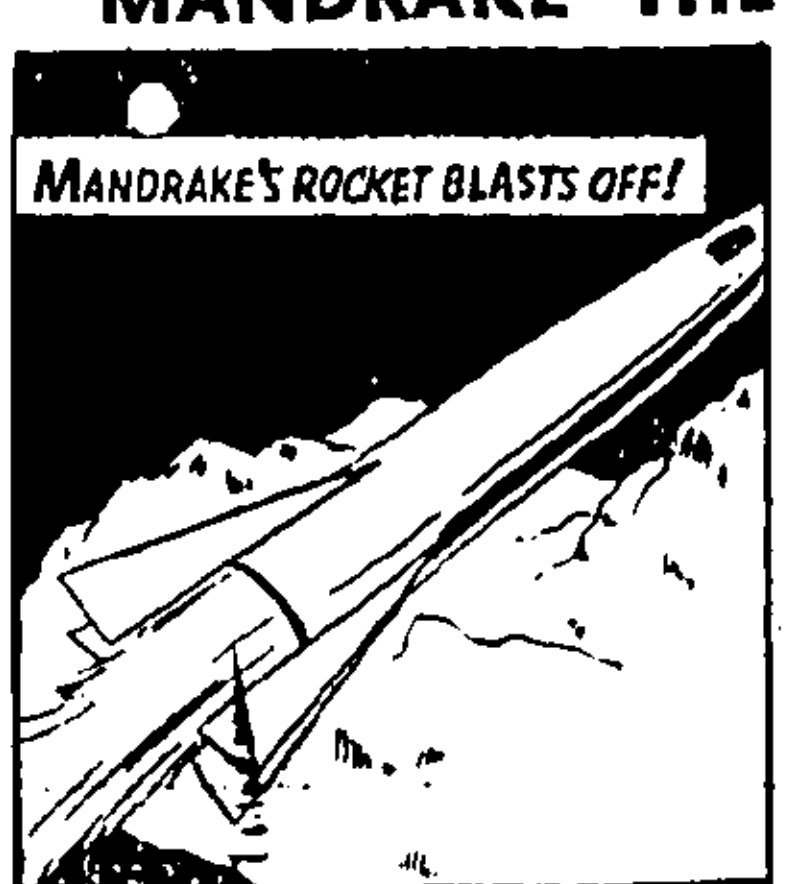
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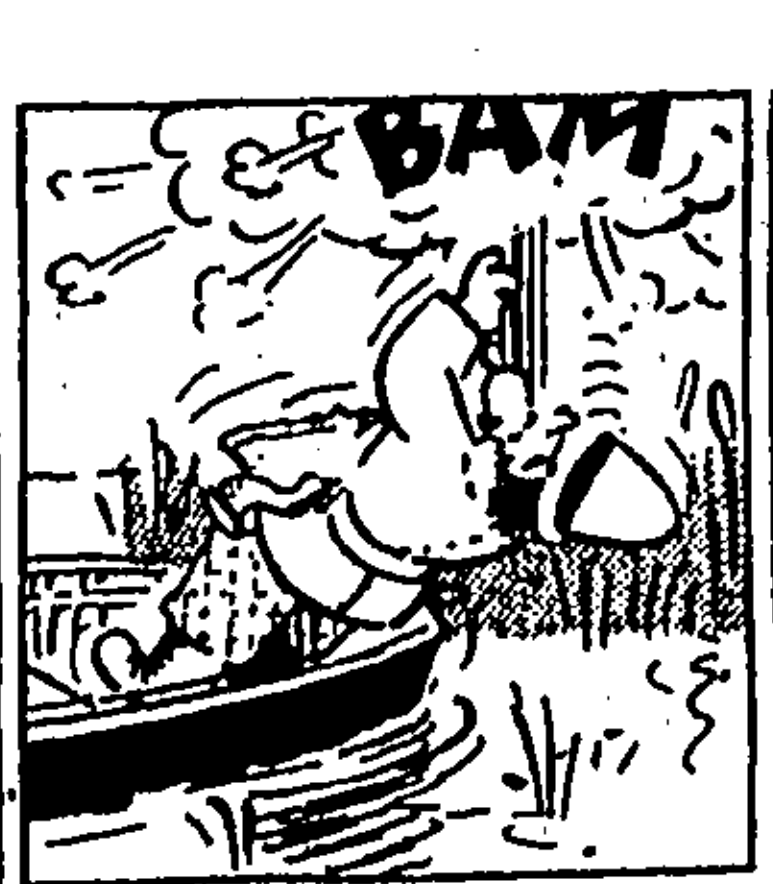
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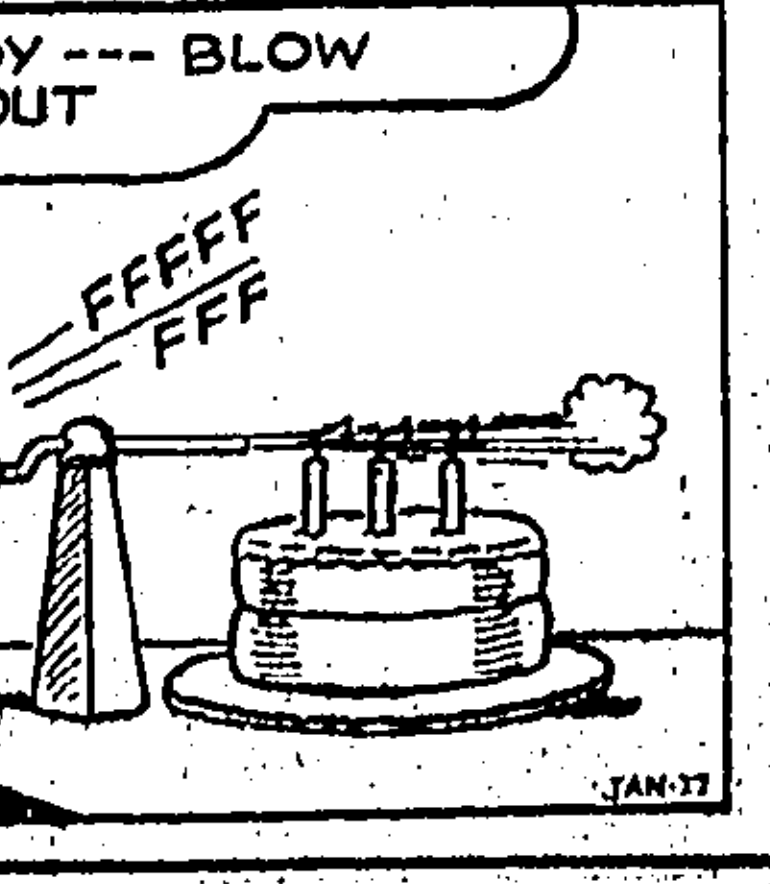
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Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for registered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office. The latest times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Registered parcels may be sent by air by enquiry at any post office.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

By Air

Indo-China, France, 6 p.m.

By Surface

Macao, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

By Air

Philippines, 10 a.m.

and Canada, 9 a.m.

Indo-China, 10 a.m.

By Surface

Formosa, Japan, U.S.A. and Canada, 2 p.m.

Japan, 8 p.m.

Formosa, 9 p.m.

Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 8 p.m.

China, People's Republic, 8:30 a.m.

Indonesia, 11 a.m.

Indo-China, 11 a.m.

Formosa, 1 p.m.

Macao, 2 p.m.

Formosa, India, 3 p.m.

Malaya, Ceylon, Aden, Middle East, Great Britain and Europe, 2 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

Snow Falls Near Melbourne

Melbourne, Mar. 23.

With winter still two months away, snow fell within 40 miles of Melbourne yesterday.

Blizzards howled across the Victorian Alps, piling up snow drifts to a foot deep in some places. The temperatures plunged below freezing point to 25 degrees.

In Melbourne, heating radiators were brought into action for the first time this year. The city's lowest temperature was 27 degrees shortly after midnight.

China Mail Special.

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Page 10

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 1954.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

3 Smart Girls

THIS is the story of three smart girls, the oldest of them 20, the other two 19, who came to London each on their own, but about the same time, in search of adventure.

Everyone young should have an eye cocked for adventure, but these three had cocked notions of what they meant by the word.

They had it in mind to become something half-way between a Hollywood heroine and a gangster's moll, so each made a bee-line, when they arrived, for the streets around Piccadilly Circus, where the bright lights are so deceptively gay.

Each was stopped at the top of a slippery bowl-slide that leads from dream-peaks to the gutter, by the alert police.

FIRST JANET

THE first of the three was named Janet, a pretty, blonde-haired child from Glasgow, who wore a loose coat of shirking purple, and a knitted yellow scarf peasantwise round her head, and tiredly pleaded guilty to the charge down against her at Bow Street.

"Not known, sir," said the goatee to Sir Laurence Dunne, the Chief Magistrate.

"Have you seen her about long?" Sir Laurence asked the young officer who had arrested Janet.

"Only in the last fortnight, sir," said the officer. "I believe she came down from Scotland about six weeks ago, and has been sleeping rough."

NEXT ANGELA

"HAVE you any people?" Sir Laurence asked Janet. She nodded.

"Why did you come down here, then?"

"Oh, I don't get on with them at home."

"Why not?"

"Well, my mother's all right, it's my father..."

Janet was remanded for a week in custody, for the day, for to see her and the probation officer to talk to her.

She went off listlessly, and her place was taken by Angela from Plymouth, and looked so sad that London, you fancied, must have been using her hard.

She wore a mustard yellow corduroy coat, and pleaded guilty, too, in a lifeless voice, and vaguely scratched her tip-titled nose, as she looked round the sombre brown courtroom.

AND THEN JESSIE

SHE seemed to be beginning to have her doubts about the gaiety of London, and when she, too, was remanded for a week in custody, she padded out from the court as if her feet were playing her up, after too much walking.

I slipped away from Sir Laurence's court, upstairs to Court No. 2, where Mr. Bertram Reece was on the bench.

I was just in time to see Jessie brought in, a tall, nice-looking girl from Edinburgh, whose London career was a week in advance of the others. She already had spent seven days in Holloway, on remand after pleading guilty to the same charge as they.

Miss Hamilton, the probation officer, went into the witness-box.

SO-TO HOME

"THIS girl, you will remember, sir, ran away from home to come to London," Miss Hamilton said. "I think she's a good deal wiser now. She's willing to go back home, and her parents will be very glad to have her back. I can put her on a train to Edinburgh tomorrow, sir..."

"Excellent," said the magistrate. "What do you want to say?" he asked Jessie.

"Only I'd like to go home, sir," she said demurely. Her eyes, unlike those of the other two, were sparkling with hope and excitement.

"Well, the sort of life you were living down here can only have one end, you know," Mr. Reece warned her. "You go back to your home."

He put her on probation, and she went out, gay and eager. A girl at the start of a new adventure that might last her all her life.

In Holloway, the other two, Janet and Angela, had seven days in which to decide whether they wanted that kind of adventure, too, instead of the other.

Repeal Of Boycott Urged

(Continued from Page 1)

to bring about the maximum degree of trade that lies within our power."

Sir Walter Fletcher (Conservative), who welcomed more trade with Russia, said China was in a different category.

China did not have as good a record as Russia, he said. She had squeezed out those whose capital and skill had provided her with her only modern industrial equipment. She had bled them white in the process. Nor had she a record for compensation.

Britain had got into hot water for recognising China. He welcomed a friendly approach, but it must be a two-way traffic. "We must have some definite act of goodwill from China," he said. "So far this has not been forthcoming."

Mr. Heathcoat-Amory said Britain was just as anxious for trade with other countries of the Soviet bloc as with Russia itself. Britain was now entering into negotiations with Poland and hoped to begin negotiations with Hungary within a few days and with Czechoslovakia in two or three months' time.

On the question of trade with China, Mr. Heathcoat-Amory said that in 1950 British imports from China were worth £10,000,000, in 1951 £17,500,000, in 1952 £23,000,000 and in 1953 rose again to £10,300,000.

British exports to China were at a very low figure.

NOT TOO HOPEFUL

The Government was not too hopeful that the volume of trade with China would be likely to rise very rapidly, he added. Some system of freer trade might help.

Indeed if China were to place large orders for capital goods now he could not see how payments could be made.

Why did Britain not relax her restrictions on China as readily as was hoped to do with Russia and the other Communist countries? he asked.

The Government were very anxious that Britain should return to friendly trade relations with China.

British policy on restrictions was that first of all there should be an armistice; secondly, progress towards some peaceful political settlement and then a review of strategic controls.

If the Geneva conference was successful it would be exactly the kind of progress that would bring nearer the day when the Government would think it right to review the strategic controls on trade with China.

He said the Chinese Government had not been helpful. The armistice in Korea, secondly, the position but not sufficiently to justify a new attitude.—*Reuter.*

Probe Into Murder Accusation

Rome, Mar. 22

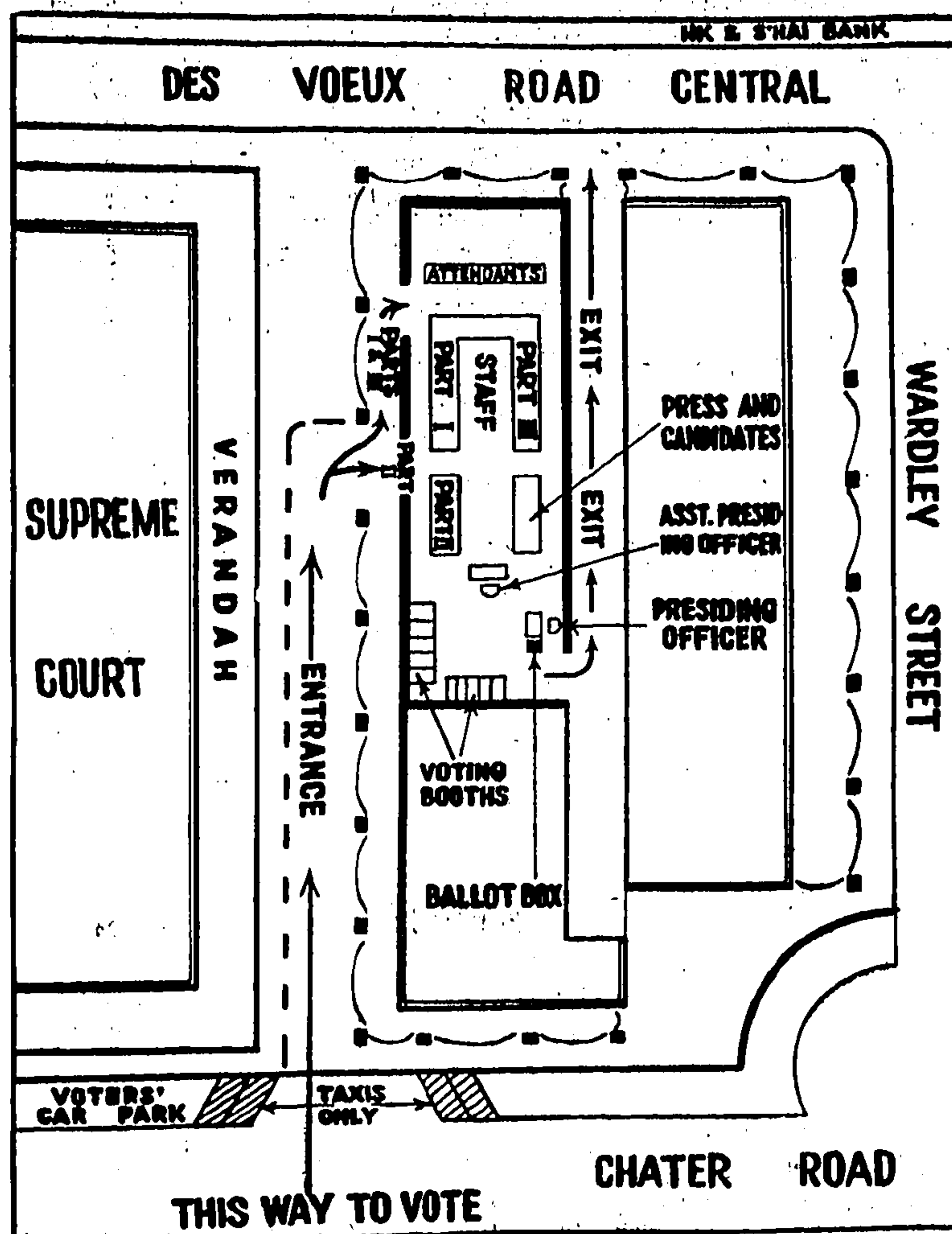
The Penal Court today ordered a complete investigation of a sensational "accusation of murder" by an Italian party girl against the son of Italy's Foreign Minister.

The court suspended the sensational-packed trial of Italian journalist Silvano Muto until the inquiry is completed. Muto is charged with spreading "false and alarming information" by alleging that 21-year-old Wilma Montesi died of an overdose of narcotics last April after a sex and dope orgy at the forest hunting lodge of the prominent Marechese Ugo Montesi.

The adjournment was ordered after a defence witness, Anna Maria Montesi Caglio, the "black swan" of the case, appeared as a witness. She had written a "spiritual testament" introduced in evidence, which claimed that Montesi was the "bride" of a "dope ring" and that the Foreign Minister's son, Piero Piccioni, was its "assassin."

The prosecutor, Bruno Bruni, demanded adjournment of the trial, and a new investigation because of the "testimony" linking "young Piccioni" with the case.—*United Press.*

Where You Will Vote Tomorrow



The above sketch plan, issued by the Government Public Relations Office, illustrates where tomorrow's Urban Council election polling will take place in Victoria. The buildings are situated in front of the Supreme Court in Statue Square, running north to south from Chater Road to Des Voeux Road Central. Voters are invited to study this plan in order to familiarise themselves with the arrangements which have been made for recording votes.

Unfavourable Trade Balances Shrink

Washington, Mar. 22

The Commerce Department reported today that the unfavourable balance of trade which other countries have had recently with the United States shrank in 1953 to its smallest amount of any post-war period. It was only \$400,000,000, officials said.

This resulted from the United States importing goods and services from other nations to a total value of \$16,000,000,000 while exporting goods and services totalling \$21,300,000,000. The balance did not take into consideration about \$4,300,000,000 worth of military supplies and services which the United States sent abroad to aid the defence of friendly nations. This was considered outside of usual commercial or financial channels.

The unfavourable balance in goods and services which other nations had with the United States in 1952 was \$2,300,000,000, the report indicated. As a result of transactions in 1953, foreign countries raised their gold and dollar assets by about \$2,300,000,000, the Department reported.

"Foreign gold purchases alone amounted to \$1,100,000,000," it said. "Total liquid dollar assets and gold holdings by foreign countries outside the Soviet bloc, and excluding the International Bank and International Monetary Fund amounted to about \$23,000,000,000 by the end of the year, representing a new high."

There were, however, still significant country differences in the distribution of foreign reserves relative to commercial needs, the Department commented.

Radio Hongkong

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